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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Takeshita Views Public Spending Ratio Issue *[KYODO]* 1
Abe, Hashimoto Comment on Rumors of U.S. Visit *[KYODO]* 1
MITI Official Hints at SII Draft Delay *[KYODO]* 1
Easing of Large-Scale Retail Law Favored *[KYODO]* 1
Cabinet Dispute Arises Over Retail Store Law *[KYODO]* 2
Ministers Asked To Settle Satellite Dispute *[KYODO]* 2
Talks to Start on DSUS Equipment Market *[KYODO]* 3
Honda President Meets U.S. Commerce Secretary *[KYODO]* 3
Removal of U.S. Rice From Exhibition Urged *[KYODO]* 3
Official Says U.S. Timber Talks Make Progress *[KYODO]* 3
Tariff Reductions Proposed at GATT Talks *[KYODO]* 4
BOJ Governor Mieno Denies Disarray Within G-7 *[KYODO]* 4
USSR Freighter Collides With Fishing Boat *[KYODO]* 5
Central Bank To Urge Lending Restraint *[KYODO]* 5
Trade Secrets Protection Law Boost Urged *[KYODO]* 5
Matsunaga Becomes Foreign Ministry Adviser *[KYODO]* 6
Bank of Tokyo To Promote Takagaki to President *[KYODO]* 6

North Korea

Jiang Zemin's Official Visit Covered by KCNA 6
- Meets With Kim Il-song 15 Mar 6
- Confers With O Chin-u 16 Mar 6
- Visits Sunchon Vinalon Complex 6
- Attends Luncheon in Pyongyang 7
- Receives Farewells, Departs 7
- Sends Thanks to Kim Il-song 8

Military Reports on U.S. 'Espionage' Flight *[KCNA]* 8
Mass Rallies Denounce 'Team Spirit 90' *[KCNA]* 9
Youth Group Demands End to 'Team Spirit' *[KCNA]* 9
Party Discusses 'Team Spirit,' Reunification *[KCNA]* 9
NODONG SINMUN Denounces Exercise *[KCNA]* 10
South Korean Defectors Meet With Foreign Press *[KCNA]* 10
Newspaper Comments on 'Charlatan' Kim Yong-sam *[KCNA]* 11
DLP Denounced for Actions in ROK Assembly *[KCNA]* 12
ROK-Japanese Military Exchange Denounced *[KCNA]* 13
Mongolian Minister Supports DPRK Plan *[KCNA]* 13
Mongolian People's Army Anniversary Noted *[KCNA]* 13
Kim Yong-nam Meets Outgoing GDR Envoy *[KCNA]* 13
Information Agreement Signed With Bangladesh *[KCNA]* 13
Burkino Faso Head Sends Kim Il-song Message *[KCNA]* 13
Red-Flag Movement's Role in Innovation Cited *[KCNA]* 14

South Korea

Kim Yong-sam Slated To Address Supreme Soviet *[TONG-A ILBO]* 14
First-Time TV Coverage of Gorbachev Address *[YONHAP]* 14

Seoul Joining Group To Fund East-Bloc Changes *[THE KOREA TIMES 14 Mar]* 14
North Korean Terrorist May Get Amnesty *[YONHAP]* 15
No Stresses 'Water-Tight' Defense Against North *[YONHAP]* 15
Contacts With North at Winter Games 'Friendly' *[THE KOREA TIMES 15 Mar]* 16
Lawyer To Meet North Korean Father in Tokyo *[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Mar]* 16
North Expected To Build Kim Chong-il's Image *[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Mar]* 17
KYODO Cited on Jiang, Kim Il-song Speeches *[YONHAP]* 17
Officials To Visit China for Ferry Route Talks *[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Mar]* 17
Foreign Minister Choe Continues Foreign Tour 18
Views Exchanges With Pakistan *[YONHAP]* 18
Seeks Help for China Ties *[YONHAP]* 18
Meets Indian Counterpart 16 Mar *[YONHAP]* 18
Japan's Self-Defense Forces Seeking Exchanges *[THE KOREA TIMES 13 Mar]* 19
Organization Set Up To Assist Sakhalin Koreans *[YONHAP]* 19
Koreans in Japan Call for Change in North *[THE KOREA TIMES 15 Mar]* 19
Cocom Simplification Accord Reached With U.S. *[YONHAP]* 19
'Tense Confrontation' Marks Assembly Session *[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Mar]* 20
PPD's Kim Calls for Compromise With DLP *[YONHAP]* 20
Opposition Stages Sit-in at National Assembly *[YONHAP]* 21
PPD Helpless Against DLP Strength in Assembly *[THE KOREA HERALD 14 Mar]* 21
New Group Draws Attention as Possible Party *[THE KOREA HERALD 15 Mar]* 22
Union Leaders Arrested for Withholding Papers *[THE KOREA TIMES 14 Mar]* 23
Workers Respond With Walkout *[THE KOREA TIMES 15 Mar]* 23
Spring Semester Opens With Student Protests *[YONHAP]* 24
Court Ruling To Halt Practice of Rights Abuse *[YONHAP]* 24
New Reunification Education Policy Critiqued *[CHOSON ILBO 10 Mar]* 24

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Spokesman Discusses U.S. Indictment of Khun Sa *[AFP]* 26
Military Authorities Arrest 36, Mostly Students *[AFP]* 26
Martial Law Revoked in 12 Rangoon Townships *[Rangoon Radio]* 26
Thai Military Delegation Arrives in Rangoon *[Rangoon Radio]* 27
Meets Saw Maung *[Rangoon Radio]* 27
Leaves Rangoon 11 Mar *[Rangoon Radio]* 27
Thai Army Intelligence Chief Arrives 15 Mar *[Rangoon Radio]* 27
Delegation Returns From Conference in Thailand *[Rangoon Radio]* 28
Radio Carries Democracy Party's Campaign Speech *[Rangoon Radio]* 28
Fire in Thaketa Township Destroys 360 Houses *[Rangoon Radio]* 29

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Anti-Drug Task Force on Trafficking, Addiction *[BERNAMA]* 29

Singapore

Bilateral, Defense Ties With Neighbors Viewed *[THE STRAITS TIMES 15 Mar]* 30

Cambodia

KPNLF Says China Will Resume Arms Supplies *[Bangkok THE NATION 16 Mar]* 30
U.S. Stance on Settlement Viewed as 'Correct' *[Radio VONADK]* 31
VONADK Reports 15 Killed in Kompong Thom 31
VODK Reports 27 Feb Ambush in West Battambang 31
Sweeping Operations Launched in Banteay Meanchey *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 31
Bou Thang Tours Army Units in Border Areas *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 32
Sar Kheng Pays Visit to Kompong Cham 9-10 Mar *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 32

Editorial Views Consolidating Party Leadership *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 33
Feeling of Despair Among Cambodians Reported *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 14 Mar]* 33
National Bank Communique on 100-Riel Bank Note *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 34

Indonesia

Murdiono Discusses Relations With China, Taiwan *[ANTARA]* 35
Editorial Views Normalizing Ties With China *[THE JAKARTA POST 12 Mar]* 35
Aeroflot's Moscow-Jakarta Route To Reopen *[ANTARA]* 36

Laos

Thai Princess Continues Visit to Vientiane 36
Attends Banquet *[Vientiane Radio]* 36
Phoumi Vongvichit Speaks *[Vientiane Radio]* 37
Princess Speaks *[Vientiane Radio]* 38
Editorial Hails Visit *[Vientiane Radio]* 38
PRC Olympic Delegation Arrives for Visit *[KPL]* 39
Women's Union Delegation Returns From Cuba *[KPL]* 39

Philippines

Militant Groups Warn Against Retention of Bases *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 39
Further on Student Protest Rally at Clark AFB *[PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 16 Mar]* 39
1989 Trade Surplus With U.S. Reported *[BUSINESS STAR 15 Mar]* 40
Weather Research Agreement With Soviets Signed *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 15 Mar]* .. 41
Canadian Extradition Treaty To Be Retroactive *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 41
'Suspected' Marcos Gold Bars Found in Munich *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 15 Mar]* 41
Reportage on Confirmation of Aquino Appointments 42
Commission Confirms Three Officials *[Quezon City Radio]* 42
Aquino To Intercede *[Manila Radio]* 42
Official on Abad's Confirmation *[Manila Radio]* 42
Aquino Orders Creation of Land Conversion Group *[Manila Radio]* 42
Aquino Sends Tax Reform Package to Congress *[MANILA BULLETIN 11 Mar]* 43
Laurel Comments on Enrile, His Own Candidacy *[PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 15 Mar]* 43
Tighter Control of Firearms Expected *[Manila Radio]* 43
Ramos Orders Tight Security at Airports, Ports *[Quezon City Radio]* 44
Laoag International Airport Reopens *[Manila Radio]* 44
Paper Carries Honasan's 'Fourth Open Letter' *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 15 Mar]* 44
Military Captures Suspected Dec Coup Plotter *[Quezon City Radio]* 45
Aquino Pleased With Capture *[Manila Radio]* 45
Further on YOU's Statement on Ramos, De Villa *[THE MANILA TIMES 16 Mar]* 45
Rebels Said Recruiting for New Coup Attempt *[BUSINESS WORLD 16 Mar]* 46
Investigation Continues Into General's Killing *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 11 Mar]* 47
De Villa Names Replacement for General Florendo *[Manila Radio]* 47
De Villa Orders Hunt for Rebel Colonel Noble *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 47
Military Reveals Rebel Soldiers' Newspaper Codes *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 15 Mar]* 47
Campaign Against Rebels Intensified in Manila *[MANILA BULLETIN 11 Mar]* 47
Detainees Granted Private Medical Checks *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 14 Mar]* 48
Military Reveals Failed Palawan Mutiny 25 Feb *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 15 Mar]* 48
Rejection of Cease-Fire Proposal Assailed *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 48
Government Clashes With MNLF, NPA; 15 Dead *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 11 Mar]* ... 48
Communist Rebels Take 13 Hostages in Davao *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Mar]* 49
Bail for Detained Communist Rebels Ruled Out *[Quezon City Radio]* 49
Military, Rebels Urged To Respect 'Peace Zones' *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 11 Mar]* 49
Zamboanga Leaders Favor Southern Command Split *[MALAYA 14 Mar]* 50
NPA Rebels Step Up Operations in Cagayan *[MALAYA 14 Mar]* 50
Labor Leader Condemns Bataan Militarization *[Manila Radio]* 50
Military Frees Maimbung From MNLF Control *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 50
1990 Foreign Debt Estimated at $29 Billion *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIER 12 Mar]* 50
Strikes Blamed for Low Productivity *[MALAYA 12 Mar]* 51

Thailand

Sitthi Back From Europe, Reports on Trip *[Bangkok Radio]* 52
Princess Departs on Eight-Day Visit to Laos *[TNA]* 52
Chatchai, Officials at Airport *[Bangkok TV]* 52
Editorial Criticizes Generals' View of Burma *[THE NATION 15 Mar]* 53
New Chatchai Cabinet Said To Need 'Respect' *[THE NATION 16 Mar]* 53
Reportage on Sitthi Visit to Czechoslovakia *[cross-reference]* 54
Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit to Hungary *[cross-reference]* 54

Vietnam

Troops in Cambodia Called 'Sheer Fabrication' *[Hanoi International]* 55
Three Departure Programs Reported Accelerated *[BBC]* 55
Leaders Greet Gorbachev on Election as President *[VNA]* 55
Dang Vu Hiep Attends Seminar on Lao Party *[VNA]* 56
Article Views Issues of Peace, War, Revolution *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
Failure of Credit Unions Prompts Demonstrations *[AFP]* 58
'More Than 10,000' Detained in Crime Crackdown *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Hanoi To Continue Drive *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Court Convicts Newsman of Criminal Offense *[Hanoi Radio]* 59
Journalists Association Discusses 1990 Tasks *[Hanoi Radio]* 59
Committee Reports Results of Nomad Resettlement *[Hanoi Radio]* 60

Japan

Takeshita Views Public Spending Ratio Issue

OW1603052990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0442 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Brazilia, March 15 KYODO—Former Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Wednesday hinted at the possibility of sending Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and Shintaro Abe, former chairman of the Executive Council of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, to Washington in late March and April, respectively, to help eliminate structural impediments to trade and investment between the two countries.

Takeshita is in Brazil to attend the inauguration ceremony for Brazilian President-elect Fernando Collor de Mello after visiting Washington where he held meetings with President George Bush and other U.S. political leaders.

Takeshita told reporters accompanying him that President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker in their meeting in Washington early this week showed understanding regarding Japan's assertion that it cannot comply with the U.S. request to expand public spending to 10 percent of Japan's gross national product (GNP). Takeshita said that the U.S. has conceded that Japan could raise its public spending ratio to 8 percent of Japan's GNP. The present ratio is 6.7 percent.

In his meeting with reporters, Takeshita pointed out that both the government and LDP have not reached a consensus on the matter prior to the higher level bilateral consultations scheduled for Tuesday in New York.

Takeshita specifically suggested that Hashimoto may visit Washington late this month to meet U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas Brady, to break the impasse in the talks.

In his recent visit to the U.S., Takeshita suggested to Brady that a conference on the talks be held on the U.S. west coast.

Meanwhile, a ranking Finance Ministry official in Tokyo flatly denied that Hashimoto was planning to visit the U.S. on the trade talks. Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said that the government is not thinking of sending an emissary on the issue at this time.

Abe, Hashimoto Comment on Rumors of U.S. Visit

OW1603065190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0551 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe hinted at the possibility of visiting the United States to help resolve an impasse in trade talks between Tokyo and Washington. Abe was asked by reporters about former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's remarks in Brazil that he thinks Abe and Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto may go to the U.S. in late March and April, respectively, to help eliminate structural impediments to trade and investment between the two countries.

"I have heard nothing and such an idea does not exist. I have not such a thought," Abe said. However, he said, "I will do anything if I may be helpful. As Mr. Takeshita made such a remark, I will listen to him about his real intention after he returns home."

Meanwhile, Hashimoto denied that he is planning to visit the U.S. He told reporters, "(Takeshita's remark) is like a bolt from the blue. I am at a loss."

MITI Official Hints at SII Draft Delay

OW1503082990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0604 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—A top-ranking government official said Thursday the government may not be able to quickly draw up a draft of Japan's responses to the U.S. requests to open the Japanese market made in the ongoing Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks. International Trade and Industry Vice Minister Yukiharu Kodama told a regular press conference that the ministries concerned are working on the draft with the goal of coming up with persuasive measures by the next round of SII talks to be held on April 2 and 3.

"We are still a long way off from fashioning any clear idea on what the draft will be," he said. "I don't believe the prime minister has any definite time frame for the works," he said.

The NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, a Japanese economic daily, reported Thursday that the government has decided to formulate its draft by Friday.

The U.S. has been demanding that Japan should improve the foreign access to its market through removing structural impediments to trade and investment.

Among the U.S. requests are scrapping the Large-Scale Retail Stores Law, strengthening the Antimonopoly Law, and boosting Japan's public spending.

Easing of Large-Scale Retail Law Favored

OW1603092290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1458 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—The Japanese Government now favors a U.S. proposed revision of the antimonopoly law but disapproves of scrapping the large-scale retail law, which the U.S. claims limits foreigners' access to Japan's retail market, government sources said Thursday.

In its draft plan for the planned interim report on U.S.-Japan structural trade talks, the government is considering revising the antimonopoly law to increase

fines against violators, the sources said. But the government would like to ease application of the retail law rather than abolish it, they said.

Through the three rounds of bilateral trade talks, known as the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII), the U.S. has demanded the scrapping of the retail law, together with revision of the antimonopoly law and expansion of public spending, claiming that they are substantial trade barriers for foreigners.

In a stopgap measure, the government will curtail the period for setting up a shop to two years at the most and tighten control on individual regional regulations on opening stores, according to the plan. There have been complaints that in some cases it takes large retailers 10 years or more to open stores here.

In the longer term, the plan calls for more drastic reforms of the law, which is aimed at protecting family-run shops from competition with established retailers. Under the current law, would-be shop openers are required to consult with small shops nearby and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) to get their approval. But such consultations are often boycotted by small shop keepers, stalling the planned opening of new stores.

The government reforms include publicizing of such consultations three years from now and the upgrading of arbitrators for talks to public employees.

The government also intends to expand public spending in infrastructure to improve the living standard of the Japanese, as demanded by the U.S. But it is not likely to bow to a U.S. request that Japan boost its public investment to 10 percent of its gross national product (GNP) from the current level of about 7 percent.

The main points of the plan also include increased taxation on farmland beginning in 1992 and further efforts to narrow the gap between prices at home and abroad. The government will present the draft plan to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as early as Friday for approval, but some revision of the plan seems inevitable as the U.S. is persistently demanding "visible results" from the talks in the interim report in early April, the sources said.

Cabinet Dispute Arises Over Retail Store Law

OW1603034290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—A dispute arose in a cabinet meeting Friday over how to handle U.S. demands to abolish a law restricting the opening of large retail stores, one of the ministers involved said.

International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto told reporters after the cabinet meeting that Home Affairs Minister Kaiwa Okuda criticized MITI's [Ministry of International Trade and Industry] stance favoring a more liberalized implementation of the existing law as insufficient to resolve the current trade dispute with the U.S. and called for more radical steps. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu intervented to stop the discussion, Muto said.

The Large-Scale Retail Stores Law is one of the points at issue in the ongoing bilateral talks on removing structural impediments to trade and investment. The United States says the law hampers foreign access to the Japanese market by restricting the opening of large retail outlets, and is calling for it to be scrapped.

Muto has said that liberalizing the way the law is implemented will be enough to improve access of foreign-made goods to the market.

Ministers Asked To Settle Satellite Dispute

OW1603054690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0459 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu asked two ministers involved in trade talks with the United States on satellites Friday to hammer out concrete measures to settle the dispute, government officials said. Kaifu made the request to Takeshi Fukaya, minister of posts and telecommunications, and Tomoji Oshima, director general of the Science and Technology Agency, after a regular cabinet meeting, the officials said.

Kaifu was quoted as saying he wants the two ministers to draw up a new package of compromise measures at an early date to settle the bilateral dispute.

Japan and the United States have so far held "expert-level" talks on U.S. charges that Japan unfairly restrains sales in Japan of U.S.-made satellites and components, but have been unable to reach agreement so far.

The talks have been focused on a Japanese project to develop a new communications satellite, called the CS-4, which Japan says is designed for research and not for commercial use. Washington says it believes that the CS-4 will eventually be used commercially and therefore non-Japanese firms should have the chance to supply components and related equipment for it.

Japan has proposed giving U.S. firms the opportunity to supply some of the components used in the CS-4, but the United States has insisted the procurement should be fully open to U.S. suppliers.

Washington has singled out Japan as having unfair trade practices in satellites, timber products, and supercomputers under the so- called Super 301 Clause of its 1988 Trade Act and could impose sanctions if no agreement is reached by June 16.

Talks to Start on DSUS Equipment Market

OW1503140890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1320 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—Japan and the United States agreed to Thursday start talks on the proposed opening of the Japanese market for telecommunications equipment known as digital service units (DSUS), Japanese sources said. The agreement was reached at a meeting in Tokyo between Minoru Shioya, vice minister for posts and telecommunications, and J. Michael Farren, U.S. undersecretary for international trade.

The first round of the talks is expected to be held next week.

DSUS connect Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp.'s (NTT) digital communications circuits with user telephones, and control digital signals. A DSU is equivalent to a circuit breaker inside a house in an electricity supply line.

In Japan, DSUS are considered part of NTT's network facilities, so NTT buys the equipment from Japanese makers and leases them to subscribers.

In the U.S., where DSUS are considered part of user facilities, companies and individuals that use digital networks purchase the equipment. But the U.S. is the sole major country to believe that users should install their own DSUS, and has asked Japan to take steps to enable users to freely buy DSUS like telephones.

DSUS are priced at about 100,000 yen each, and Japanese demand at present is estimated at 500-600 million yen a year. Japanese firms are allowed to sell DSUS freely in the U.S, but the lack of a reciprocal arrangement in Japan is considered unfair by the U.S.

Farren did not bring up in his meeting with Shioya other telecommunications trade issues, such as a review of the Japanese law on the telecommunications business.

Honda President Meets U.S. Commerce Secretary

OW1603110490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—The head of Honda Motor Co. said Friday the company plans to boost its imports of U.S.-made vehicles and auto-related products. Honda President Tadashi Kume unveiled the plan in a meeting with U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher, who was in Tokyo to discuss bilateral trade issues with Japan's political and business leaders.

Kume said Honda plans to make purchases in five product categories, including four-wheel-drive vehicles of Chrysler Corp., car telephones of Motorola Inc., and spark plugs of Champion Spark Plug Co. The import of Chrysler vehicles will begin in early April, Kume said.

Kume also said the company plans to increase the use of U.S. components. He said the company is working out a system in which U.S. auto parts makers can participate in research and development activities of Honda. In order to boost the use of U.S.-made parts, Honda will also invest 1.5 billion dollars, he said.

Mosbacher, who visited Honda's headquarters earlier in the day, met Kume and other members of its Board of Directors. He gave high marks to Honda's production activities in the United States and expressed hope for further efforts by Honda to buy U.S.-made auto parts.

Honda has already announced an import expansion plan under which it will more than double its purchases of foreign-made auto vehicles and parts to 160 billion yen by 1992.

Removal of U.S. Rice From Exhibition Urged

OW1503144790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1410 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—The government Thursday called on the sponsor of an international food fair to remove U.S. rice now on display in a Tokyo suburb. The Food Agency said the exhibition of overseas rice for sale is not permitted under Japan's staple food control law.

The USA Rice Council, made up of U.S. rice growers and millers, is currently displaying six types of U.S.-produced rice at the exhibition at Makuhari Messe, Chiba Prefecture, in anticipation of a relaxation of the present ban on the import of rice. It is the first exhibition of U.S. rice in Japan.

In January, the Food Agency told the exhibition sponsor, the Japan Management Association, that the display of even a token amount of U.S. rice at the exhibition would be "undesirable." The agency thus believed that U.S. rice would not be on display. Its call for the removal of the U.S. rice came after its Chiba office confirmed that U.S. rice is on display.

The exhibition will close Saturday. About 900 companies from 41 countries and territories are participating.

Official Says U.S. Timber Talks Make Progress

OW1603095790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0805 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Washington, March 15 KYODO—Japanese and U.S. officials made some progress during their two-day talks aimed at resolving a dispute on bilateral timber trade, a Japanese trade official said Friday. The official said the U.S. expressed understanding of Japan's proposal calling for flexible application of Japan's tariff classifications on wood products.

The U.S. had asked Japan to change its agricultural grading system, its product standards for lumber used for construction, as well as its tariff classification system, he said.

U.S. and Japanese trade officials will continue their discussions on Japan's offer to define the criteria used to set duties on finished and semifinished lumber products, the officials said. At present, the duties on semifinished lumber are much higher than those set for raw lumber.

The U.S. praised Japan for its intention to simplify the approval procedures set by the agricultural grading system which determine the durability of lumber, the official said.

Tariff Reductions Proposed at GATT Talks

OW1603033790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0215 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Geneva, March 15 KYODO—Japan proposed to reduce tariffs on industrial products, excluding petroleum products, by a uniform 33 percent Thursday at the Uruguay Round for multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), diplomatic sources said. The proposal, which was submitted to the GATT Secretariat, covers about 6,800 industrial items but does not cover agricultural products, which Japan said should be discussed at agricultural talks, they said.

A U.S. tariff cut proposal, which was also presented to the secretariat the same day, covers farm products, the sources said.

More than 20 industrial nations, including Britain and France, have submitted or plan to present their own tariff reduction proposals to the Geneva-based free trade watchdog, the sources said.

BOJ Governor Mieno Denies Disarray Within G-7

OW1503130490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1152 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno brushed aside the view Thursday that disarray among the Group of Seven (G-7) countries is hampering efforts to halt the U.S. dollar's upsurge against major foreign currencies, including the yen. Mieno made the comment in response to a question at a news conference upon returning from his trip to Europe.

The central bank chief said that during talks with his European counterparts, he felt the cooperative framework among the G-7 major industrial nations remains firmly effective. He also indicated that the G-7 member states remain fully committed to their earlier agreement to hold down the U.S. currency's overvalued exchange rate despite remarks by some monetary officials in the U.S. tolerating the dollar's present strength.

Calling recent currency movements still considerably speculative, Mieno reaffirmed his determination to stop the yen from sliding further through strongly coordinated intervention in foreign exchange markets. He said the yen's present undervaluation against the dollar is not understandable, suggesting that such speculative currency dealings would meet with intense concerted intervention in currency markets.

Japan's healthy fundamental economic strength would not justify the yen's unabated weakening trend, he added. Mieno also said he told monetary officials in Europe that he is confident the well-balanced Japanese economy would continue to grow smoothly, drawing impetus from its robust domestic demand.

During his European trip, Mieno attended his first monthly meeting as BOJ governor of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) in Basel, Switzerland, Sunday and Monday. He also met with central bank chiefs in Britain and West Germany during what Mineo described as "courtesy visits" as Japanese central bank governor.

Asked about the possibility of an emergency meeting of G-7 finance chiefs, Mieno simply said he is not in a position to comment. Government and other sources have said a meeting of central bankers and finance ministers of the G-7 nations is to be held in Paris on April 7.

At the press conference, Mieno indicated that the Japanese central bank is still weighing the timing of a fourth hike in its official discount rate.

Speculation was growing that the bank would raise its base lending rate shortly after Mieno returned from his European trip.

Market analysts say the currency market has already discounted a rate hike of between 0.75 and a full percentage point. The central bank last raised the "policy rate" December 25 by half a percentage point to the present 4.25 percent.

Assessing the current conditions surrounding commodity prices, Mieno warned that the yen's prolonged weakness and higher crude oil prices in overseas markets are putting added pressure on Japanese price stability. Mieno said upward price pressures remain high, pledging the bank will closely watch whether such unfavorable trends might suddenly alter inflation psychology among individuals and corporations.

Asked about a possible shift in the bank's monetary stance in the immediate future, Mieno reiterated such a decision would be based on comprehensive considerations.

USSR Freighter Collides With Fishing Boat

OW1603045990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0429 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, March 16 KYODO—A Soviet freighter, which collided with a Japanese fishing boat, sinking it and leaving one fisherman missing off eastern Hokkaido on Thursday, fled without making a rescue attempt, maritime safety officials said Friday.

After the collision early Thursday in waters some 30 kilometers southeast of Cape Nossapu, Japanese patrol boats rushed to the scene and rescued four of the five men aboard the fishing boat, the No. 31 Hiro Maru. The fifth man, Shinji Mikami, 26, of Nemuro, is still missing.

A patrol plane later spotted a Soviet freighter, identified as the 5,980-ton Sayanski Gory, in nearby waters and contacted it by radio. The freighter at first denied being involved in a collision but later admitted it. It refused to answer further questions, the maritime safety officials said.

Central Bank To Urge Lending Restraint

OW1603110590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0957 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—The Bank of Japan (BOJ) will urge the country's 12 major commercial banks to substantially curb growth in their lending in the April-June period, a central bank source said Friday. The central bank plans to call for a cut of more than 14 percent from the year-earlier level in new loans by these "city" banks in the coming three months, the source said.

The planned restraint follows a 14.7 percent reduction in the January-March period. The central bank's planned action reflects its growing concern about the potential danger of inflation.

The semimandatory restraint on commercial bank lending also represents the central bank's determination to fight against excessive liquidity, the sources said. The central bank, worried about growing inflationary pressures, started to urge lending restraint by financial institutions from the July-September quarter last year shortly after the bank's first hike in the official discount rate in May.

The credit-tightening move, the first in nine years, marked a clear departure from its prolonged easy monetary policy.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno and other central bank officials also have issued repeated warnings recently against a possible resurgence of inflation due to an acute labor shortage and a high money supply growth rate.

After final consultations with banks on the so-called window guidance, the central bank will give its formal notice at the end of March, the source added.

Trade Secrets Protection Law Boost Urged

OW1603101890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—An advisory panel to the International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] recommended in a report Friday that Japan should upgrade its laws to protect trade secrets from unfair competition. The panel urged the Government to revise the Prevention of Unfair Competition Act to legalize the right to request a ban on the use of proprietary information obtained through unfair means.

Japan is the only major industrial country that has not legislated for such rights, according to the report. Such a step is important in light of the ongoing Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The talks are aimed at seeking an international pact to protect proprietary information by the end of the year.

Providing legal protection for trade secrets is also significant since such information is assuming increasing importance in the technological and marketing fields as society is becoming information-oriented, the report said. Also behind the growing importance of legal protection of proprietary information is the recent trend toward increased mobility in the labor market leading to more possibility that persons with company secrets may change companies.

Ensuring the right to request prohibition of the use of stolen trade secrets is vital since mere compensation will not sufficiently recover or limit the damage caused by unfair competition, the panel said. The current Prevention of Unfair Competion Act, which was enacted in 1934, does not provide for requests for bans on the transfer of secrets in this way.

Proprietary information is defined as information that can fulfill four criteria—it should not be known publicly, it should be reserved as secret, it should be technological or marketing information with economic value, and it should be information that merits protection as a secret. It includes manufacturing technology which companies guard as secrets, design plans, experimental data, marketing know-how, sales manuals, and customer lists.

Unlike patents, protection of proprietary information does not cover cases in which a well-intentioned third party has obtained the same information through legal means. It would not, for example, be applied to a case where two people had the same idea at the same time.

The Government is expected to shortly start revising the law, and will complete the task by the end of the year at the latest, MITI officials said.

Matsunaga Becomes Foreign Ministry Adviser

OW1603040390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0219 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Former Ambassador to the United States Nobuo Matsunaga became an adviser to the Foreign Ministry on Friday, the government announced.

The government also said Jutaro Sakamoto, ambassador to Venezuela, was named concurrent ambassador to Guyana and Suriname the same day.

Matsunaga, 67, served as ambassador to the U.S. between 1985 and 1989 and was replaced by Ryohei Murata last October.

Bank of Tokyo To Promote Takagaki to President

OW1503113290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0950 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—The Bank of Tokyo Decided Thursday to promote its vice president, Tasuku Takagaki, 61, to the presidency, succeeding Minoru Inoue. After four and a half years as president, Inoue, 66, is to relinquish his post for health reasons earlier than the June expiry of his tenure, but will continue as the bank's adviser, Bank of Tokyo officials said.

Yusuke Kashiwagi, 72, former vice finance minister for international affairs, will remain as the bank's chairman. The appointments will be finalized at a board meeting following a meeting of shareholders on June 28.

Takagaki joined the only Japanese bank specializing in foreign exchange in 1953 upon graduation from the University of Tokyo, where he majored in economics. He served as a London branch manager before becoming vice president last June.

North Korea

Jiang Zemin's Official Visit Covered by KCNA

Meets With Kim Il-song 15 Mar

SK1503153690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 15 Mar 90

[KCNA identifies this as pool item]

[Text] Pyongyang March 15 (KCNA)—Talks were held again today between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Present at the talks on our side were Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and senior cadres and on the opposite side were Li Ximing, member of the Political Bureau of the central committee of the CPC and secretary of the Beijing Municipal Party Committee, and cadres accompanying Jiang Zemin.

Comrade Jiang Zemin arrived here Wednesday for an official goodwill visit to Korea at the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song.

A performance of the revolutionary opera "The Flower Girl" was given today in honor of Comrade Jiang Zemin.

Comrade Kim Il-song appreciated the performance together with Comrade Jiang Zemin.

Comrade Jiang Zemin conversed Thursday with cadres of the Korean party and state and went to the May Day Stadium and Mangyongdae School Children's Palace.

Confers With O Chin-u 16 Mar

SK1603050290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, on an official goodwill visit to Korea, today met Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], member of the WPK Central Military Commission and minister of People's Armed Forces, and his entourage.

Present on the occasion were Paek Hak-nim, minister of public security, General of the Korean People's Army [KPA] Kim Kwang-chin and Colonel General of the KPA Yi Pong-won, who are members of the WPK Central Committee, and Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee.

Also present were Li Ximing, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and secretary of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the CPC; Zhu Liang, member of the CPC Central Committee and head of its International Liaison Department; Qi Huaiyuan, alternate member of the CPC Central Committee and vice-minister of foreign affairs; Zeng Qinghong, deputy director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee; and Wen Yezhan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Korea.

Comrade Jiang Zemin had a friendly talk with Comrade O Chin-u in an amicable atmosphere.

Visits Sunchon Vinalon Complex

SK1603051490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on an official goodwill visit to Korea, today visited the Sunchon vinalon complex.

He was accompanied by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The complex was seething in a festive mood upon receiving the friendly envoy of the Chinese people.

Set up in the complex were slogan-boards reading "Warm welcome to Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China!" and "Long live the unbreakable blood-sealed militant friendship and solidarity between the two parties and two peoples of Korea and China!"

When Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Jiang Zemin arrived at the complex, 60,000 people warmly welcomed them.

They were met by So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chief secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Pak Nam-ki, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK; Kim Hwan, vice-premier of the Administration Council; and senior officials of the Sunchon vinalon complex.

The Chinese cadres accompanying Comrade Jiang Zemin and other suite members arrived there.

The guests were accompanied by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; Kim Yong-sun, director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Chu Chang-chun, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of our country to the People's Republic of China, who are members of the WPK Central Committee; and Cha Pong-chu, vice-minister of foreign affairs.

Labor heroes presented bouquets of fragrant flowers to Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Jiang Zemin.

The guests, taking a bird's eye view of the grand chemical industry base, acquainted themselves with the course of its construction.

They went round the carbide shop of the fertilizer factory and the reeling shop of the vinalon factory of the complex.

After going round the chuche-based vinalon production processes built by the Korean People's Army soldiers and constructors in a short period with our own design, technique, materials and equipment and our own efforts, Comrade Jiang Zemin and other Chinese guests congratulated the workers there on their success.

The guests left the complex amid warm send-off of the crowds.

Attends Luncheon in Pyongyang

SK1603110990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], arranged a luncheon on March 16 for Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Invited there were cadres accompanying comrade Jiang Zemin and suite members.

Present at the luncheon were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and vice-premier and foreign minister; Kim Yong-sun, member of the C.C., the WPK and its department director; Chu Chang-chun, member of the C.C., the WPK and ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the People's Republic of China; and Cha Pong-chu, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs.

The luncheon proceeded in an amicable atmosphere overflowing with feelings of friendship.

Receives Farewells, Departs

SK1603103890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Communist Party of China, left Pyongyang today by special plane after his successful three-day official goodwill visit to Korea upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

Comrade Kim Il-song and leading cadres of the party and state saw off Comrade Jiang Zemin.

The airport and streets of the capital city were wrapped in an atmosphere of hearty farewell to Comrade Jiang Zemin.

Over 100,000 working people and school youth and children warmly bade farewell to the friendly envoy of the Chinese people along the route from the guest house to Yonmot-tong.

Comrade Jiang Zemin, accompanied by Comrade Kim Il-song, arrived at the airport amid enthusiastic cheers of people lining the route.

Set up at the airport were slogan-boards reading: "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" "Long live the glorious Workers' Party of Korea!" "Long live the great Communist Party of China!" "Good-bye to Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China!" And "Long

live the unbreakable militant friendship and solidarity sealed with blood between the parties and peoples of Korea and China!"

Thousands of citizens were waiting at the airport with miniature flags of the two countries and flowers.

Present at the airport were Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of People's Armed Forces; and senior party and state officials Yon Hyong-muk, Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, Kim Yong-nam, Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, Choe Kwang, Han Song-yong, Hyon Mu-kwang, Hong Song-nam, Kim Pok-sin, Chong Chun-ki, Kang Hui-won, Pak Nam-ki, So Kwan-hui, Hwang Chang-yop, Kim Chung-nin, Yun Ki-pok, Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Hwan; Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party; O Hyong-chin, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, Staying in the Homeland; members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee in Pyongyang; department directors of the WPK Central Committee; chairmen of commissions and ministers of the Administration Council; senior officials of central organs and working people's organizations; generals of the Korean People's Army; senior officials of science, education, culture and art, public health and the press; and Chu Chang-chun, member of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK ambassador e.p. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] to the People's Republic of China.

Wen Yezhan, Chinese ambassador e.p. to Korea, and his embassy officials, the member of the Chinese people's volunteers of the Korean-Chinese side to the Military Armistice Commission, officials of the Liaison Office of the CPV, Chinese guests staying in Korea and Chinese students studying in Korea were also present.

The suite members of Comrade Jiang Zemin arrived at the airport to leave for home.

A farewell function took place at the airport.

The national anthems of Korea and China were played.

Comrade Jiang Zemin, in company with Comrade Kim Il-song, reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Jiang Zemin were presented with bouquets of fragrant flowers by working women, officials of the Chinese Embassy here, Chinese students studying in Korea and Children's Union members.

Comrade Jiang Zemin exchanged greetings at parting with the members of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and members of the Political Bureau.

Comrade Kim Il-song firmly shook hands with Comrade Jiang Zemin and warmly hugged him.

Comrade Jiang Zemin got on the plane, waving to the enthusiastically cheering crowds.

The plane took off at 4 p.m.

[Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean, in a similar report at 0900 GMT 16, adds that Jiang Zemin's three-day visit "served as an important occasion for developing to a higher stage the traditional friendship, unity and cooperative relations that were firmly forged between the two parties and the two peoples of Korea and China in the course of the anti-imperialist struggle and on the single path of socialism. His visit was an expression of active support for and solidarity from the Chinese communists and the people of China with our people's struggle for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the nation."]

Sends Thanks to Kim Il-song

SK1603110490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on March 16 received a message of thanks sent by Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, upon leaving Pyongyang after concluding his official goodwill visit to our country.

The message says:

The enthusiastic and grand welcome and kind hospitality your party and people accorded us during our first visit to Korea have left unforgettable impressions upon me and made us deeply feel once again the profound sentiments of friendship of the Korean party and people toward the Chinese people.

I am convinced that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between China and Korea are sure to be further consolidated and developed by the joint efforts of our two sides.

I sincerely wish the Korean people continued fresh success in socialist construction and in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Military Reports on U.S. 'Espionage' Flight

SK1603112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors committed an aerial espionage on the major objects in the areas of the northern half of Korea 240 kilometers deep by letting the high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane "U-2" make a 19,000 odd metre high shuttle flight from the East to the West Sea of our

country along Military Demarcation Line between 08:25 and 14:15 on March 16, according to military sources.

And they brought the Okinawa-based "E-3" early warning plane into the sky over South Korea and let it make a shuttle flight from the east to the west from 09:45 to 14:25 on March 16 to spy on the targets in the inland and coastal areas of the northern half of Korea.

And they conducted an intensive aerial espionage on targets in the forward areas of our side by mobilizing many reconnaissance planes of various types of the Air Force of their aggression forces based in South Korea including "RF-4C."

More than 140 cases of such aerial espionage have been recorded in the first 16 days of March.

The reckless aerial espionage getting more frequent daily shows well how frenzied the U.S. imperialists have become in their bid to realise their wild ambition for northward invasion.

Mass Rallies Denounce 'Team Spirit 90'

SK1503112090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 15 (KCNA)—Mass rallies denouncing the aggressive "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises being staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are being held in different parts of Korea.

Addressing the rally held in South Pyongan Province the speakers charged that the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises are an unpardonable challenge to our earnest and sincere efforts to relax tensions and guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula as well as to the desire of the world people for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

The entire people in the northern half of Korea, they noted, will keep a close watch on the new war provocation manoeuvrings of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, be in full combat readiness to counter possible provocations of the enemies and firmly defend our socialist motherland and the gains of revolution.

At the rallies in North Hamgyong Province and Kaesong municipality the speakers stressed that the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army to get fully ready for combat mobilisation against the intensified war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists is a just, self-defensive step to firmly defend our socialist motherland and the gains of revolution and thwart in advance the wildcat war provocation moves of the enemies.

Noting that the "Team Spirit 90" is a criminal war game which is leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war, they demanded that the U.S. imperialists look squarely at the trend of the times and stop at once their anachronistic play with fire.

Similar rallies have been held at the Pyongyang textile combine, the Hyesan paper-making complex, the Okdo cooperative farm in Yonggang County, Nampo municipality, and many other industrial establishments and cooperative farms.

Youth Group Demands End to 'Team Spirit'

SK1403000490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1458 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 13 (KCNA)—The bureau of the World Federation of Democratic Youth [WFDY] appealed to the members of its federation and friendly organizations to be active to put an end to the "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppet clique.

The federation in a statement on March 5 said: The "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercises now under way at a time when the dialogue between the North and the South has entered a stage where it can make success in the main are a shameless challenge to the sincere efforts of the Korean people and youth for peace and reunification and an open mockery of the world's peaceloving people and youth who want North-South dialogue and the reunification of Korea.

The bureau of WFDY resolutely denounces the criminal "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercises designed to inflict nuclear holocaust upon the Korean people.

We demand the United States and the South Korean "Government" to stop the nuclear war exercises and immediately withdraw military equipment and nuclear weapons from South Korea today when the whole world is aspiring after detente and different measures for it are being taken.

We take this opportunity to reclarify solidarity with the people and youth of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea who have sincerely endeavoured to realize the peaceful reunification of Korea. We also call on the members of the WFDY and all the friendly organizations to conduct activities to put an end to the "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercises.

Party Discusses 'Team Spirit,' Reunification

SK1503151590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 15 (KCNA)—The 16th plenary meeting of the Sixth Central Committee [C.C.] of the Chondoist Chongu Party held in Pyongyang today discussed the "tasks of party organizations to oppose the 'Team Spirit' military maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group and promote peace and peaceful reunification of the country."

Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party, made a report at the meeting, to be followed by speeches.

The reporter and speakers denounced the No Tae-u military fascist clique for trying to stifle the forces advocating reunification and democracy through the formation of "grand conservative alliance" on the script of U.S. imperialism, having faked up the fictitious "fourth tunnel" incident, insisting that there is no concrete wall which exists and staging nuclear war exercises. They said this is a criminal act which contradicts the idea of "rejection of West and Japan," "promotion of national interests and welfare of the people" and "broad salvation of people" of the Chondoist Chongu Party which advocates independence, democracy and reunification.

They referred to the concrete tasks of the party organizations to cope with the large-scale, frantic war racket against the North and promote peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

They stressed that they would actively work to pull down the concrete wall, realise free travel and full-scale open door between the North and the South and materialise free contact and dialogue between parties, groupings, people and personages of the North and the South, upholding the new national reunification proposal put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address.

NODONG SINMUN Denounces Exercise

SK1603052490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—The "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have entered an extremely dangerous stage, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed commentary today.

It notes:

Early morning Wednesday the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group staged a large-scale joint landing exercise near Pohang on the east coast simulating an attack on coastal cities of the northern half of Korea with the mobilisation of marines of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and of the puppet navy.

The landing exercise shows that the "Team Spirit 90" launched by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets in late January, defying the strong protest and condemnation by the Korean people and the world peaceloving people, has gone over to a stage of full-scale field operation following the stage of deployment.

The U.S. imperialists and the puppets are claiming that the "Team Spirit 90" is a "rehearsal for defence" and advertising the "reduction of its scale" as a sign of their effort for the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula. With no trick, however, can they cover up the criminal nature of this war game targeted against our Republic.

They made public the "Team Spirit 90" plan one month earlier, challenging our peaceful reunification efforts and have hurled into the manoeuvres huge armed forces and military hardware of the latest type and nuclear weapons enough and to spare for a whole war.

The U.S. imperialists have set a longer period of field operations than last year and scheme to stage three-dimensional attack operations such as mobile operation for air attack, joint river-crossing operation, Military Demarcation Line breakthrough operation, commando operation and nuclear bomb dropping exercise following the large-scale joint landing operation.

This tells that the "Team Spirit 90" has grown in scope and strength in content, far from shrinking and relaxing compared with the previous ones.

There are no assurances that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets would not unleash a total war against the North while staging the war gamble, moving up to the Military Demarcation Line, with the mobilisation of huge armed forces.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets must stop at once the reckless play with fire.

South Korean Defectors Meet With Foreign Press

SK1403002290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 13 (KCNA)—Kim Won-sok, director of the Kuro and Yongma tourist agencies of the South Korean Tourist Company, Ltd., and Yu Sol-cha, a clerk of the Yongma Tourist Agency, who had come over to the Northern half of the country on February 2 met with home and foreign reporters at the People's Palace of Culture today.

Kim Won-sok was born in Pyongchon-myon, Chonwon County, South Chungchong Province, and Yu Sol-cha in Sinpyong-myon, Tangjin County in the same province.

They, to begin with, explained the motive of their coming over to the North. Kim Won-sok who ran business in South Korea had enough to live on and enjoyed some affluence. Though he opened a business out of the desire to make a contribution to the nation, he could not realise his simple dream in the land where justice and truth suffer an eclipse and injustice and irregularities prevail.

Kim Won-sok said: When I was touring different regions of Southeast Asia, Singaporeans passionately told me words expressing boundless respect and praise for the great President Kim Il-song and dear Mr. Kim Chong-il. That caused a mental change beyond emotion in my heart.

This made me resolve to make a new start to brilliantly adorn my remaining years in the embrace of the great president and the dear leader together with the fellow

countrymen in the North, instead of living a worthless life for a few amount of money.

I decided to come over to the North with Yu Sol-cha in order to live honestly in the twilight years of my life, Kim Won-sok added.

Yu Sol-cha said:

When director Kim wanted me to accompany him to the North, I wondered if he had received an order from the North, pondering what dissatisfaction had put that idea into his head. After many days of meditation, I judged that to go to the North is for a worthwhile life and for the promotion of national reunification and steered the tenor of my life to the North together with him.

What impressed us most deeply in the North is the fact that the leader and the people are united in the sense of obligation and the entire people live a harmonious life like a family, irrespective of positions and past doings, Kim Won-sok said, and continued:

The great President Kim Il-song and the people are in the same relationship as between the meticulous father and children of a family, the relationship which is quite different from the state and judicial relations or relations of social strata. We can find there only affection of kinship and loyalty based on human love, trust and obligation.

In rain or shine, the people in the North always live and work optimistically, cherishing the August images of the great president and the dear leader in their hearts. Such feelings that have taken deep root in the minds of the people are the biggest mental wealth of the republic that defies all comparison.

Speaking of the corruption of the South Korean society, Kim Won-sok said the tourism in the South is in most cases suffering a disgraceful reputation of prostitution tourism.

Fully exposing the fact that the No Tae-u group killed many people in the Kuro district office in Seoul and rigged the "presidential elections" in 1987, which has been kept in secret until now, Kim said the traitor No seated himself in the "presidential" chair after stage-managing such incidents as the "Kuro District office" case in all parts of South Korea.

He further said:

They call the traitor No "36 percent president." Taking into consideration this rigging, however, he is no more than a "10 to 15 percent president."

Yu Sol-cha said that in the South women are humiliated, subjected to social inequality and discrimination, and have to reconcile themselves to unbearable insult as human beings. It is No Tae-u who masterminds "the export of babies," making fabulous profits by selling some 8,000 babies abroad a year, who has turned the South Korean tourism into "kisaeng tourism" and encourages it as a "special industry," she said, and added:

South Korea is, indeed, a land unfit for the living of women.

The North is a society where women are respected and granted maximum rights, she said.

While in the South the youth and children get the knowledge of money before anything else, in the North they seem to regard learning as their duty and their heads to be overflowing with knowledge.

Kim Won-sok said:

The South Korean authorities are insisting in a far-fetched manner that there is no concrete wall. But this is a shameless assertion.

He said he can state definitely and confidently that there is the concrete wall because he saw it at first hand three times when he went to Cholwon on the foremost front in March 1988 and later to Yonchon and Panmunjom.

He said that he could hardly repress his bitter national resentment at the persistent denial of it by those who have cut off the blood vein of the homogeneous nation with a history of thousands of years by building a concrete wall, the like of which cannot be found in any other country.

In reference to the tunnels dug by the No Tae-u group in different spots of foreward area, Kim Won-sok charged that the "fourth tunnel" incident was faked up by them in an attempt to divert elsewhere the attention of the people who oppose the South Korean society.

No one can break the ardent desire of the people of this country to live in a reunified land, holding in high esteem respected President Kim Il-song, the great leader of the nation, and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il, he said, adding:

We will make what little effort we can to end the tragedy of the split country and achieve reunification in hearty response to the new reunification proposal put forward by President Kim Il-song in his New Year address.

Newspaper Comments on 'Charlatan' Kim Yong-sam

SK1203140390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1116 GMT 12 Mar 90

["Kim Yong-sam Is Anti-Democratic Saboteur Wearing Mask of Democracy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 12 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sam is the vicious enemy of democracy who has the record of countless sabotages against the movement of the people for democracy, disguising himself as a democrat.

So says NODONG SINMUN today in the second installment of a serial article on the treacherous color of Kim

Yong-sam, a political charlatan, under the title "Anti-Democratic Saboteur Wearing Mask of Democracy."

Kim Yong-sam is the incarnation of betrayal and treachery and a "sakura" quack politician who is accustomed to breaking his promise and reversing without any hesitation what he said if it is for his personal fame, says the article, stating:

While paying lip service to anti-dictatorship and democracy, he has done a lot of harm to the democratic movement of the South Korean people, sailing in the same boat with the military fascist dictatorship.

In order to repay the "favour" from his American masters, he wore the mask of a dissident and has faithfully served for the maintenance and prolongation of the colonial military fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists, overtly and covertly cooperating with the "Yusin" dictatorship and then conspiring with the dictatorial forces of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics."

It was, of course, on the direct order of his masters and out of his own nefarious greed for power that he had taken the road of conspiracy with the traitor Pak Chong-hui.

In June, 1987, the resistance of South Korean people surged to a strong tide. Driven into an uncontrollable crisis, the U.S. imperialists ordered No Tae-u to announce the deceptive "June 29 declaration" in an attempt to disorganise and disintegrate the democratic forces. At that time, Kim Yong-sam took the lead in sympathizing and compromising with him and played a treacherous part in calming down the sentiments of the people intent on the ouster of the U.S. imperialists and the overthrow of the dictatorship, thus giving the military fascist clique time to save itself from the crisis.

Entering July and August that year, the labour movement gained momentum. However, Kim Yong-sam kept himself away from it and sided with the military fascist clique when it cracked down harshly upon it. In December, he turned down the demands of the people for a single candidacy from the opposition camp in the "presidential elections" and ran for presidency, saying that he made up his mind to become a "president" already in his middle school days. This resulted in splitting the democratic forces, giving an opportunity to No Tae-u to become a "36 percent president" and extending the military dictatorial "regime."

Worse still, when the ruling became weak and the opposition strong in the "National Assembly" after the "April 26 general elections" in 1988, Kim Yong-sam, playing a bridesman of the dictatorial forces, took the lead in disorganising the opposition camp and helped No Tae-u's "Democratic Justice Party" maintain its one-party show.

As president of the so-called opposition party Kim Yong-sam deliberately neglected the operation of the "ad hoc committee of the National Assembly" for the liquidation of the misdeeds of the "Fifth Republic" and the probe into the truth behind the Kwangju incident and finally said yes to the deceptive "Measure for liquidating the Fifth Republic legacies" proposed by No Tae-u at the "Talks of Party Leaders at Chongwadae." This was an open treacherous act of completely legalizing the revival of the "Fifth Republic."

As soon as Chon Tu-hwan, the chieftain of the misrule of the "Fifth Republic" and the main culprit of the Kwangju massacre, made shameless and deceptive "testimonies" at the "National Assembly," Kim Yong-sam said that the "liquidation of tme Fifth Republic" came to a conclusion and that "it is time to do away with the distinctions between democracy and anti-democracy, between the ruling party and opposition camp, openly joining hands with the dictator of "Chongwadae," the article says, and stresses:

Nothing can justify the disgraceful political prostitution of Kim Yong-sam who joined hands and shares the bed with No Tae-u, the military dictator, playing a main role in the fascist political coup of the grand conservative alliance at a time when the military dictatorship of the "Fifth Republic" returns to life, when the struggle of workers for vital rights and democracy is indiscriminately trampled underfoot and when the liberties of ideologies and conscience are suffocated under the signboard of "defending a liberal democratic system." This is an unpardonable betrayal and treachery.

DLP Denounced for Actions in ROK Assembly

SK1503053490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0517 GMT 15 Mar 90

["One-Party Show at 'National Assembly'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 15 (KCNA)—The gangsters of the "Democratic Liberal Party" (DLP) of South Korea have the field to themselves at the puppet National Assembly. This is the topic of a NODONG SINMUN commentary today.

They dismissed the requests of opposition "national assemblymen" for an opportunity to express their views and railroaded an "amendment to the law on the ROK Army organization" in ten minutes through the "defence commission" of the puppet National Assembly on March 12.

The news analyst says:

This offers clear proof that the "political restructuring" through the three-party merger into the "DLP" by the No Tae-u group is a criminal coalition and a dangerous political plot of the pro-U.S. reactionaries designed to boss the show at the "National Assembly" on the basis of the majority of its seats so as to fabricate or revise fascist laws their own way and build up a structure for a long-term office of one-party dictatorship.

It also shows that the "National Assembly" which is crying for "parliamentary politics" has been turned still further into a hand-raising machine backing the anti-national, anti-democratic policies of the "DLP" gangsters.

They forced the passage of the "amendment to the law on the ROK Army organization," though it had been rejected by various circles and opposition party of South Korea because it was against even the puppet Constitution. This is part of the criminal moves to promote the fascistization and militarization of the socio-political life by pushing ahead with war preparations and consolidating the military foundations of the dictatorial "regime" in line with the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression, says the news analyst.

ROK-Japanese Military Exchange Denounced

SK1403101490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 14 (KCNA)—The Tokyo-based KOREAN NEWS SERVICE quoted the Japanese newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN as reporting that the military academy of the Japanese ground "self-defence force" and the South Korean puppet military academy decided to exchange students from this summer.

The puppets then decided to exchange students with the Japanese militarists for the Navy and Air Force, said the newspaper.

This shows that the South Korean puppet clique is overtly tightening military tieups with the Japanese militarists and opening them the way of staging a comeback to South Korea to build higher hurdles in the way of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

This treacherous act coincides with the U.S. imperialists' manoeuvres to round off the U.S.-Japan-South Korea tripartite military alliance. This adds to the grave nature of the situation.

Mongolian Minister Supports DPRK Plan

SK1403083290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 14 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic Ts. Gombosuren in a solidarity letter to Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam noted that the proposal for pulling down the reinforced concrete wall and realising free travel and complete opening between the North and the South and convening a North-South top level conference in which the heads of the authorities and the leaders of political parties will take part is a new, clear expression of the consistent policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for easing the tension on the Korean peninsula and reunifying the country.

He in the letter reiterated the invariable support of the Mongolian Government and people to the reasonable and practical proposals and initiatives of the DPRK Government for reunifying the country independently and peacefully without outside interference.

Mongolian People's Army Anniversary Noted

SK1503113290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1059 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 15 (KCNA)—A soldiers' meeting was held at Kim Il-song Military University on March 15 on the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the founding of the Mongolian People's Army.

Present on invitation were Charge D'Affaires A.I. of the Mongolian Embassy in Pyongyang Dashdorjiin Jamiandorj and embassy officials.

Speeches were exchanged at the meeting.

Kim Yong-nam Meets Outgoing GDR Envoy

SK1403105090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 14 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam on March 13 met and had a talk with Hans Maretzki, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the German Democratic Republic to Korea, who paid a farewell call on him.

He entertained the ambassador to a dinner.

Information Agreement Signed With Bangladesh

SK1603045090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—An agreement on cooperation in the field of information between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of Bangladesh was signed in Dhaka on March 12.

It was signed by Song Pong-sun, vice-chairman of the DPRK Information Committee, and Syed Ahmed, secretary of the Ministry of Information of Bangladesh.

Burkino Faso Head Sends Kim Il-song Message

SK1603044490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message of thanks from Blaise Compaore, chairman of the People's Front, head of state and head of the Government of Burkina Faso.

Extending most heartfelt thanks to President Kim Il-song for showing special solicitude to the First Congress of the People's Front of Burkina Faso, the message dated March 9 says this clearly shows once again that the

fraternal relations of friendship and solidarity existing between the two peoples are sure to become closer.

The message expresses the belief that thanks to the support of His Excellency President Kim Il-song for the current congress, the People's Front of Burkina Faso will grow stronger in implementing its policy of building a democratic, prosperous society.

Red-Flag Movement's Role in Innovation Cited

SK1603053090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Pyongyang March 16 (KCNA)—A brisk movement to become a model technical innovation factory is going on in Korea.

Sixteen units recently received this title and one unit won it twice for some 8,900 technical innovation proposals which they had introduced into production and construction.

In a little more than four years since the beginning of 1986 when the drive started, 23 units have received the title twice and nearly 1,100 units once.

Part of the Three-Revolution Red-Flag Movement, this movement is a mass technical innovation movement to powerfully accelerate the technical revolution.

In the course of the movement, large numbers of valuable technical innovation proposals have been applied in different domains of the national economy, to give an impetus to a rapid growth of the economy.

The February 8 Chikdong youth coal mine, for example, has carried out a comprehensive mechanization of tunnelling work, introduced scores of technical innovation proposals including a new blasting method, thereby producing 800,000 tons of coal outside the yearly plans.

The Pyongyang general textile machine works, the Wonsan chemical factory, the Sariwon machinery plant and many other units have introduced thousands of technical innovation proposals into production, thus markedly increasing productivity.

South Korea

Kim Yong-sam Slated To Address Supreme Soviet

SK1603073390 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 16 Mar 90 p 2

[Report by TONG-A ILBO correspondent Choe Maeng-ho from Moscow]

[Text] It has been learned that Kim Yong-sam, the co-representative of the Democratic Liberal Party who is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union on 20 March, will be the first South Korean politician to address the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

According to the official itinerary made public on 16 March by the Soviet World Economics and International Relations Institute, the inviting organization, co-representative Kim will make a speech on 25 March with the theme, "ROK-USSR Relations and Peace in Northeast Asia," to the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

First-Time TV Coverage of Gorbachev Address

SK1603063090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0554 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said Thursday recent contacts between South Korea and the Soviet Union were "very good," Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC) of Korea Reported Friday.

During a news conference following his inauguration as executive president, Gorbachev was asked by a reporter for the nationwide network about the possibility of Moscow and Seoul establishing diplomatic ties in connection with the growing frequent contacts between the two countries.

It is the first time Gorbachev has spoken about Sino-South Korean affairs in public, the privately owned radio and television network said.

An MBC TV crew, the first South Koreans to be issued press cards by the Soviet Union, was allowed to cover the Soviet leader's first news conference after his swearing-in.

Seoul Joining Group To Fund East-Bloc Changes

SK1403014290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Mar 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Korea's EBRD Membership"]

[Text] Korea will reportedly become a founding member of an international banking institution aimed at backing market-economy reforms in Eastern European countries. At the invitation of a preparatory committee, a four-member Seoul delegation jointed treasury and finance ministry officials from 34 founding nations, including the United States and Japan, in Paris over the weekend to push along creation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Korea will be the first newly industrialized country in Asia that will join the institution to help boost the stagnating economy of Eastern Europe. It is yet to be decided how much capital Seoul will contribute to the regional bank, that will be launched later this year with funds scaled at $12 billion.

It is of great significance, from both the political and economic point of view, for Korea to join the 24 industrialized countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other

advanced Western countries to help East European nations, including the Soviet Union, revive their sagging economies.

Membership and voting rights in the projected EBRD are expected to add new ingredients to promoting relations wi'h the socialist countries. Seoul has become a major partner of the East European countries and giant steps have been made in improving their ties that could hardly be expected only a few years ago.

During the two years, Korea's efforts to make inroads into East Europe to expand export markets and to establish diplomatic relations with the socialist countries have been working well with the moves of the Eastern European nations to seek financial, technological and industrial assistance from the Western economies.

Until before the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988, almost nobody expected such big steps toward normalizing relations and facilitating trade exchanges with the formerly Communist countries in East Europe because of their strong support for the causes of North Korea. Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia established diplomatic ties with Seoul and Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria will follow suit shortly. The Soviet Union, the superpower siding with Pyongyang for its strategic importance, exchanged consular relations with the South and full diplomatic relationships between the two countries are likely in the not too distant future.

The EBRD membership will certainly contribute to facilitating trade and economic tie-ups with the East European countries. In recent years, trade exchanges and investment by Korean enterprises in Eastern Europe have been on the rising trend.

In the days to come, Koreans will be able to participate in various research and study programs to be arranged by the EBRD. This will pave the way for Korean businessmen to access more information to expedite economic and practical cooperation between Korea and the Eastern European countries for their mutual benefits. There are still some East European countries with which Seoul has no diplomatic relations, making it difficult to get economic and business information necessary to push cooperative exchanges.

From a long-term standpoint, the current bilateral relations with the East European countries will be developed into multilatral cooperation. In addition, positive participation in the EBRD will help Seoul prepare for the day when a single market is created in the European Community and when all barriers between the West and the East are completely lifted.

It is bright news that economic and practical cooperation with the socialist nations will be widened step by step, directly or indirectly. It is, however, regrettable to see no substantial improvement in inter-Korean relations. These days, Korean people who were educated under the anti-Communist policy have no staunch hostile feeling as in the past to Communist countries, except for North Korea.

It is hoped that the days will come soon when South Korean people will be a founding member of a regional institution designed to help their brethren in the North open their market and improve their living standards. To that end, the leaders of the Pyongyang regime should first abandon such inhumane strategies as digging underground tunnels in the Demilitarized Zone and show a sincere attitude toward Seoul to break down the "wall of distrust."

North Korean Terrorist May Get Amnesty

SK1603051490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0507 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—North Korean terrorist Kim Hyon-hui, who confessed to blowing up a Korean Air [KAL] jetliner in 1987, killing all 115 people aboard, is likely to be granted an amnesty in the second half of the year after the Supreme Court upholds her death sentence late this month, a highly placed government source said Friday.

The Supreme Court will hear the 27-year-old saboteur's final appeal on March 27 and it is almost certain to affirm the sentence of capital punishment, said the source, who declined to be named.

A Korean Air Boeing 707 bound for Seoul from the Mideast disappeared Nov. 15, 1987, over the Andaman Sea off Burma.

Kim, who was arrested in Bahrain, admitted in a Seoul court that she and a male companion accompanying her posing as her father had planted bombs on the jetliner under orders from North Korea and was convicted of violating the National Security Law and civil aviation safety law.

The government will commute her sentence as she deeply repents of her crime, the source said.

The amnesty's timing will be decided after serious thought has been given to the sentiments of the bereaved families and to international agreements that stipulate stern punishment of air terrorists, the source said.

Wreckage believed to belong to the plane was netted by a Thai fishing boat on Feb. 18 in the Andaman Sea. A team of Korean Air investigators confirmed Thursday that the pieces of fuselage were from KAL Flight 858.

North Korea denies any link with the bombing.

No Stresses 'Water-Tight' Defense Against North

SK1603065290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0630 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (OANA-YONHAP)—President No Tae-u stressed the importance of a water-tight

defense against North Korean attack Friday, warning that because North Korea is confronted with internal difficulties and external pressures for reform it may seek relief through aggressive action.

"We should bring home to North Korea that self-destruction is the only thing it can expect from any kind of provocation so that it steps toward openness and national rapprochement," No said in a speech at the 38th graduation ceremony of the South Korean Air Force Academy.

No said: "North Korea sees the global flood of openness and reform as a threat to its structure, and its feelings of fear and isolation are getting deeper in the wake of the wind of reforms blowing through the East-bloc countries.

"It has also met with the economic problems and leadership challenges over the father-son power transfer.

"As the security picture on the Korean peninsula and in East Asia is changing, so is the role of the Korean Armed Forces. We are pushing to erect a self-reliant defense system in preparation for the future, while maintaining stability on the Korean peninsula through the Korea-U.S. defense ties."

Contacts With North at Winter Games 'Friendly'

SK1503014090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Mar 90 p 12

[Text] Sapporo, Japan (AP)—Athletes and officials from North and South Korea made friendly contacts at the Winter Asian Games but there is no chance of the two Koreas sending a unified team to the Summer Games in Beijing in September, a South Korean official said Wednesday.

Chang Myong-hui, deputy leader of the South Korean delegation to the Winter Games, which ended Wednesday, described the conversations as "very friendly."

In a separate interview, Pak Myong-chol, head of North Korea's delegation, said, "I met with South Korean high-ranking officials in natural form here." He said it was "good to form a unified team for sports meets," but did not specify any future meet in which the communist North and capitalist South, divided since 1945, might join in a single team.

Pak also promised that by 1995, then North Korea is due to play host to the next Asian Winter Games, the facilities "will be beautifully completed." He said, "The temperature at Samjiyeon, 2,000 meters (6,562 feet) above sea level, is pretty low now but we still have enough time. When it becomes warmer, the preparations will be resumed under the concrete plan."

Asked whether South Korea would be invited, he said, "Holding the games in North Korea was decided last December in New Delhi. The games will be held under the ideals of the Olympic Charter."

South Korea's Chang said he had met with Han Pil-hwa, chairwoman of the North Korean Speed Skating Association and a silver medalist at the 1964 Winter Olympics. Han promised that North Korea would invite the South to the 1995 Winter Games, Chang said. Meanwhile, asked if there was any chance of sending a unified Korean team to Beijing, Chang said flatly, "No."

The two sides had reached basic agreement on sending a single Korean team to Beijing, but the talks broke down when the South demanded guarantees that the agreement would be carried out. South Korean officials feared the North could raise last-minute problems, causing South Korea to miss the deadline for entering on its own.

Aside from the North-South sports contacts at these games, Han also took the opportunity to meet with her elder brother, Han Pil-song, whom she had not seen since he fled to the South during the 1950-53 Korean war.

Citizens of the North and South cannot visit the opposite side without special permission from their governments. Han Pil-song came to Sapporo from South Korea for the reunion.

Pak, who is vice president of the North Korean Olympic Committee, said that in Sapporo, the North's athletes received enthusiastic cheering from spectators from among Japan's 700,000-member Korean community.

"It's regrettable that our results were not so good this time," he added.

North Korea, which had one gold medal and eight medals overall in the first Asian Winter Games in 1986, had no golds this time. It had one silver and four bronzes. South Korea improved to six golds and 21 medals overall this time from one gold and a total of 18 last time.

Since 1986, Chang said, participating countries have improved their technical level and were chasing Japan. Japan won 18 of the 33 golds this time, compared with 29 of 35 in 1986. China won nine golds, up from four in 1986.

Chang said South Korea hopes to hold a series of sports meets in the future to help bring up standards in Asian skiing and skating.

Lawyer To Meet North Korean Father in Tokyo

SK1603031290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Mar 90 p 2

[Text] A 38-year-old lawyer Son Kyong-han will leave for Tokyo tomorrow to meet his father from north Korea from whom he has been separated during the Korean War (1950-53). The father, Son Yong-jong, 61, is scheduled to attend a meeting for establishment of the Asian Society of History to be held in Tokyo March 15-18

representing north Korea. He is now a senior fellow of an institute under the north Korean Academy of Social Sciences.

According to his family in Seoul, the father then a junior at Seoul National University, was missing during the war. His son confirmed that he resided in north Korea first in 1977 and in 1985 from a north Korean scholar attending a seminar in the United States.

The National Unification Board yesterday approved the junior Son's plan to visit Tokyo. It also allowed three historians including Chu Yong-hon to attend the meeting of the Asian Society of History, which will be participated in by scholars from China, and Japan as well as north Korea.

North Expected To Build Kim Chong-il's Image

SK1603032090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Mar 90 p 2

[Text] North Korea is expected to further strengthen efforts to build up the image of Kim Chong-il as its new leader as a "cosmetic" gesture to adapt itself to the mood of reform now sweeping other socialist countries, Yi Hong-ku, minister of national unification, said. However, he said, a cautious approach is necessary to predict whether Kim Il-song will hand over power to his son Kim Chong-il in the near future because such a change is not a simple matter in the north.

"To tell the truth, we don't have any confirmed information on the transfer of power in north Korea," Yi told reporters. However, he said, many signs indicate that attempts to build up the image of Kim Chong-il as a political leader are now under way with more intensity and at a faster pace than ever before.

"I believe such a move stemmed from the necessity for north Koreans to take certain steps showing their changes," he said.

The minister expected the tendency to continue for the time being because Kim Il-song has no option other than to transfer power to his son. Speaking to a group of businessmen earlier in the day, Minister Yi noted that Kim indicated he would turn over power to his son and retire when he met China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping last November.

KYODO Cited on Jiang, Kim Il-song Speeches

SK1503125990 Seoul YONHAP in English 1235 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 (YONHAP)—Chinese Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin and North Korean President Kim Il-song showed delicate shades of positions towards the United States and South Korea in their speeches Wednesday, according to a report filed by Japan's KYODO news agency Thursday.

Signs of possible discrepancy in the two leaders' views towards Washington and Seoul were noticed in their speeches made in a reception hosted for the visiting Chinese leader in Pyongyang.

According to KYODO's dispatch from Beijing, Kim placed the keynote of his welcoming speech on anti-Americanism by reminding that China participated in the Korean war under a slogan, "Resist the United States, support (North) Korea." Jiang, however, did not criticize the United States in his return speech, KYODO said.

Regarding South Korea, Kim reportedly said, "The people in the South are waging a courageous anti-American, anti-fascist struggle," while Jiang did not refer to "anti-fascist criticism." Touching on the concept of "Koryo confederal republic," which has consistently championed by North Korea as a unification formula, Jiang reportedly said that he supports "many reasonable demands and proposals made by others than North Korea."

Jiang chose wordings which are normally used by the South Korean Government when he referred to "the dismantling of wall between the South and North," "talks of high-level authorities," and "easing of tension in the Korean peninsula."

The Chinese leader emphasized the need to put national aim at "promotion of relations with all world countries on the basis of five principles of peaceful coexistence." Kim, however, called for anti-imperialism without mentioning open-door policy, KYODO said.

Officials To Visit China for Ferry Route Talks

SK1603031690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Mar 90 p 2

[Text] A team of maritime officials is to leave for China to work out details of planned direct passenger boat services between Korea and China.

The Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said yesterday representatives from the administration, Korea Shipowners' Association (KSA) and Korea Maritime Institute will hold talks with proposed Chinese partners on the passenger services during their visit March 19-April 2. Major agenda include Chinese government-level approval of the planned ventures, details on how to issue visas to the travelers and which flag the passenger boats should carry, officials said.

Travelers to China usually attain visas in Japan or Hong Kong, but China is hoping to exchange a civilian-level office with Korea to issue visas directly in each other's country, one official said. Korea is expected to demand a government-level office rather than a civilian-level office, the official said.

The two countries should also discuss which national flag the passenger boats will fly, he said. China is

reportedly asking that the vessels carry a third-country flag while Korea is proposing that they fly the flag of either Korea or China.

The KSA named late last month domestic firms that will take part in four passenger routes to China this year, to open around June or close to the Asian Games in Beijing this fall. Proposed routes include Inchon-Tianjin, Inchon-Weihai, Inchon-Dalien and Pusan-Qingdao, with 5,000-ton to 10,000-ton car ferries (carrying both cargo and passengers) plying between the two cities.

Foreign Minister Choe Continues Foreign Tour

Views Exchanges With Pakistan

SK1303053690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0520 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Pakistan have the potential to expand bilateral economic cooperation in many ways and the conclusion of an investment guarantee agreement will promote cooperation of businessmen of both countries, South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung said Tuesday.

Choe made the remarks in a meeting of the Korea-Pakistan joint committee held in Islamabad, according to a report from the Korean Embassy in the Pakistani capital to the Foreign Ministry.

The committee, led by Choe and his Pakistani counterpart Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, discussed the growing bilateral cooperation in the economic, science and technology fields and inroads into the country by Korean companies.

Choe, here on the first leg of his Southwest Asia trip, also paid a courtesy call on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Speaker of the National Assembly Malik Meraj Khalid. Choe is scheduled to fly to New Delhi on Thursday.

On Monday, the Korean foreign minister met with U.S. Ambassador to China James Lilley at Beijing airport to exchange views on Seoul's efforts to establish diplomatic ties with China. After the 40-minute meeting, Choe said he did not ask Lilley to pass a message from his government to the Chinese Government but expected a favorable response to Seoul's positive attitude on improving Seoul-Beijing relations. Lilley told Choe the Korean Government will be able to convey its position to the Chinese Government on the occasion of the Beijing Asiad in September.

Seeks Help for China Ties

SK1403062290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0608 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 14 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, visiting Pakistan on the first leg of a five-nation tour in Asia and Eastern Europe, appealed to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan for cooperation Wednesday in South Korea's bid to set up diplomatic ties with China. On Tuesday, Choe paid a courtesy call on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to ask Pakistan to support normalized relations between Korea and China.

"China, I know, has a deep interest in Korea's economic power and high-level technology," Khan was quoted as saying by the Korean Embassy in Islamabad in a report to the Foreign Ministry here. "Pakistan will actively support Korea's bids to improve relations with other countries."

Choe delivered a personal message from Korean President No Tae-u to Bhutto asking her to visit Seoul at an appropriate time, and she was said to have accepted the invitation.

Praising Pakistan's democratic development and its role in the Soviet troops' departure from Afghanistan under the leadership of Bhutto, Choe promised the prime minister some 300,000 U.S. dollars worth of automobiles and medicines for the 3.6 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, the embassy report said.

During a meeting with his Pakistani counterpart, Choe asked Khan to help Korea in its effort to join the United Nations and to permit Korean firms to participate in a communication facilities project. Khan said he will consider it positively. Choe agreed to loan Pakistan 25 million dollars from Korea's Economic Development Cooperation Fund for a project to bring electricity to rural areas.

Meets Indian Counterpart 16 Mar

SK1603070090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, visiting India on the second leg of a five-nation tour of Asia and Eastern Europe, on Friday asked Indian Foreign Minister Kumar Inder Gujral to cooperate with Korea when the foreign ministers of the non-aligned nations meet in June, the Korean Embassy in New Delhi reported to the Foreign Ministry here.

Saying the problem of the Korean peninsula should be solved through dialogue between South and North Korea, Choe expressed his hope that India, which is a leading member of the non-aligned group, would make efforts to prevent the non-aligned nations from engaging in fruitless discussion of Korean affairs in their meeting in Malaysia in June.

Gujral promised his support for the South Korean position, the report said.

Meanwhile, India demanded that Korea lower tariffs on Indian carpets and normalize imports of Indian iron ore. India exported 5 million tons of iron ore to Korea last year.

Japan's Self-Defense Forces Seeking Exchanges

SK1303001690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Mar 90 p 3

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP)—Japan's Air Self-Defense Force is seeking personnel exchanges with the South Korean Air Force as part of its efforts to consolidate mutual military relations between the two countries ahead of the reduction of the U.S. forces in the southern half of the Korean peninsula.

The SANKEI SHIMBUN, quoting sources at the Self-Defense Agency of Japan, reported here Monday that the Air Self-Defense Force plans to offer language training programs to members of the officers' candidate school so they can study at the Korean Air Force Academy. The Tokyo-based economic daily said that the maritime Self-Defense Force would also follow the suit of the Air Force, working out a five-year plan for personnel exchanges. The Korea Naval Academy, the daily reported, would train its cadets in the Japanese language for the exchange programs.

The paper said that the Korean Air Force had greatest interest in strengthening the cooperative relations with the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force largely because the Japanese Air Force has excellent surveillance and intelligence-gathering capabilities. The South Korean Air Force, the daily reported, expected to learn much from the sophisticated technologies of Japan used to manufacture, maintain and repair advanced military aircraft.

The daily revealed that the Air Self-Defense Force had been reluctant to exchange personnel with the Korean Air Force for reasons of political relations and high-sensitive military secrets. But it added that Japan decided to promote the personnel exchanges with Korea to better cope with the projected closure of the U.S. Air Force bases in South Korea and the scheduled reduction of American troops in Japan, retreating from its initial reluctance to pursue exchange programs with Korea.

Organization Set Up To Assist Sakhalin Koreans

SK1203031790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0248 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 12 (YONHAP)—A group of 200 South Korean lawyers set up an organization Monday to supply legal aid to some 35,000 ethnic Koreans in Sakhalin, where they were taken by Japan for forced labor and then abandoned at the end of World War II.

Ham Chung-ho, president of the Seoul Bar Association, said the group will file a class action suit in a Tokyo court against the Japanese Government, demanding compensation on behalf of the Sakhalin Koreans. The organization will send lawyers to Sakhalin Island in May to meet with the Koreans living there.

Tens of thousands of Koreans were drafted by Japan in 1910-1945, when Korea was a Japanese colony, and sent to Sakhalin for forced labor. Following the war, with the Soviets occupying the island, the Japanese returned home but the Koreans were stranded.

Koreans in Japan Call for Change in North

SK1503015490 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Mar 90 p 2

[By correspondent Chong Hun]

[Text] Tokyo—Moves have come to the surface among members of Chochongnyon, a pro-Pyongyang organization of Koreans living in Japan, calling for democratic reforms in North Korea and condemning Kim Il-song's dictatorship.

The TONGIL (unification) ILBO, a daily published by Koreans in Japan, reported Tuesday that Koreans in Japan belonging to the anti-Seoul association have voiced such complaints for the first time probably affected by democratic reform in Eastern European socialist countries. They argued that Kim Il-song's dictatorship should be toppled, and North Korea and Chochongnyon should be democratized.

The paper said that the first meeting to prepare for a move against Kim Il-song to promote unification of the fatherland was held in Tokyo Sunday. The meeting was arranged by some 30 percent and former members of the organization, including Ha Su-to, an ex-ranking member of the group. They decided in the meeting to hold a massive rally for democratic reform in North Korea in May in Tokyo.

Cocom Simplification Accord Reached With U.S.

SK1603074290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have agreed to simplify the procedures in the U.S. export system and to ease restrictions on the transfer of technology to Korea in a memorandum of understanding on strategic items and protection of technological materials, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

The agreement was reached at the second working-level meeting on the control of strategic items on Tuesday and Wednesday in Washington, the official said.

The two sides agreed that the United States will promote the transfer of its high technology to Korea and ease restrictions on the U.S. export permit system for providing low-grade technology items to Korea if the Seoul government soon implements measures to prevent U.S. technology from leaking to a third nation, he said.

The measures include import certificate (IC) and delivery validation (DV) systems required under the Cocom (Coordinating Committee for Export to Communist Areas) regulations, according to the official.

The two sides shared the view at the meeting that Cocom restrictions on exports of strategic items to communist

nations may be eased in accordance with changes in international strategic circumstances and that Seoul and Washington will strengthen their cooperation, including exchange of information on items possibly subject to the easing of restrictions, he said.

'Tense Confrontation' Marks Assembly Session

SK1603030690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Mar 90 p 2

[News analysis by staff reporter Chong Pong-uk: "Extra Assembly Session Features Party Showdown"]

[Text] An extraordinary session of the National Assembly closes today, after a 25-day run highlighted by sharp confrontation between the ruling and opposition parties on two bills—one for local autonomy and the other for compensation for victims of the 1980 civil uprising in Kwangju.

The Assembly session was the first one held after the merger of the ruling Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and two opposition parties—the Reunification Democratic Party led by Kim Yong-sam and the New Democratic Republican Party led by Kim Chong-pil. The merger was declared Jan. 22 by President No Tae-u who headed the DJP.

Parliament dealt with a variety of bills and other affairs and took action on 12 bills and 13 other issues. The 12 bills concern, among other things, organization of the Armed Forces, land taxes, private school operation and college diplomas for those learning through self-study. Among the bills is also a revision bill to the Land Appropriation Law.

During the 25-day session, the Assembly also held two public hearings—one on the controversial legal status of third-generation Korean residents in Japan and the other on the reduction of U.S. forces in Korea.

The Assembly session, however, witnessed tense confrontation between the giant ruling party and the opposition party, never seen under the four-party system for the past two years. The merger of the three parties increased the number of ruling party seats in the Assembly to 217 from 127, compared with the unchanged 70 seats for the PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy] led by Kim Tae-chung.

The confrontation started in the National Defense Committee dealing with a revision bill to the Organization of Armed Forces Act. At stake was the military post in the position to control the top commanders of the Army, Navy and Air Force. DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] insisted the new post is necessary for more efficient military operation during wartime, while the PPD mentioned undesirable political implications of the new post.

Without narrowing the position gap between them, the ruling party railroaded the revision bill at the committee, while the helpless opposition lawmakers tried in vain to prevent the declaration of the bill's passage by the committee chairman from the DLP. Only four PPD lawmakers are members of the 17-man committee.

Another gesture of the opposition party came in the Home Affairs Committee which was deliberating a government-proposed revision bill to the Local Tax Law, designed to levy heavy taxes on idle land, which has been often the target of speculative trading. The bill was passed, with all PPD lawmakers walking out of the committee.

The Army and tax bills, however, were not major issues for the opposition. PPD's concern focused on two bills concerning the local elections and compensation for victims of the Kwangju uprising.

DLP and the PPD tried their best to produce a compromise on the bills in a marathon meeting of their chief policy-makers Wednesday only to confirm a wide gap between the their positions. The day was the deadline for the standing committees to deliberate bills.

PPD wants to see candidates in the local elections nominated by political parties, while the DLP rejects the political nature of local assembly members. The ruling party set the maximum compensation for Kwangju victims at 120 million won against the PPD's 300 million won.

There are, of course, more bills which were presented to the Assembly special session but are yet to be enacted after a compromise between the DLP and PPD or in a unilateral ruling party action. They include a revision bill to the National Security Law, the Agency for National Security Planning Law and a bill designed to guarantee police independence from political influence.

PPD's Kim Calls for Compromise With DLP

SK1403063690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0620 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 14 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, holding President No Tae-u to a promise, called for a compromise on two controversial bills Wednesday, one on compensation for victims of the 1980 Kwangju civil uprising and the other on local elections. The ruling party has enough votes to pass the bills on its own.

Kim, head of the party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), also urged the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) to eliminate "toxic provisions" in the proposed local assembly election bill to allow political parties to field candidates and lawmakers to campaign for their party's candidates.

"We will never make a concession in negotiations on the local council election law if these toxic provisions, which prohibit political parties from fielding candidates and lawmakers from supportive activities, are not eliminated," Kim told reporters at his National Assembly office. Local elections are expected in the first half of the year.

Agreement was reached between president No Tae-u and the three opposition leaders, two of whom have since joined the ruling party, on Dec. 19 last year on the compensation and local election bills, Kim said, demanding the two bills be settled in a package deal between the DLP and PPD.

No should keep pledges he made to the people on the two bills during meetings with the opposition leaders last year, Kim said.

No, Kim, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil agreed to settle differences over the two bills through a compromise between the ruling and opposition parties as part of a larger accord on bringing to an end the task of liquidating the legacies of the government of former President Chon Tu-hwan.

DLP officials have hinted the ruling party will use its massive majority to pass the bills as they stand during the current assembly session despite PPD objections if negotiation fails to produce a compromise.

Opposition Stages Sit-in at National Assembly

SK1503072790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0711 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 15 (YONHAP)—Opposition lawmakers began a sit-in Thursday in the Korean National Assembly to demand it stay in session to deal with bills on local elections and compensation for victims of the Kwangju civil uprising. The assembly is scheduled to recess Friday until May, but the opposition wants a five-day extension to thrash out a compromise on the two disputed bills.

The 70 assemblymen from Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), the sole opposition party, met in the morning and decided to stage the protest, the first action of its kind since the inauguration of President No Tae-u in 1988. They decided to participate in the afternoon session of the unicameral assembly so that they could physically prevent the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) from passing a batch of controversial bills, including a local tax law. The DLP has an absolute majority and doesn't need any PPD votes to pass a bill.

The PPD has opened negotiations with the DLP and their chief policy-makers have met, but opposition lawmakers are demanding that the government party agree to hold talks on a deal over the local autonomy and Kwangju compensation bills. The majority party has insisted that parties should not be allowed to nominate candidates in local elections because it would have "evil side effects" across the country, while the PPD has argued party nomination is essential to promote party politics. Their chief policy-makers were unable to agree on the bills Wednesday, hinting at the postponement of local elections until after June.

PPD Helpless Against DLP Strength in Assembly

SK1403013690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 14 Mar 90 p 2

[News analysis by staff reporter Yu Kun-ha]

[Text] Helpless indignation has been the general mood prevailing in the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) since the creation of the predominant ruling DLP [Democratic Liberal Party].

This indignation has reached a new height after the ruling party forced through the controversial government-proposed bill on the reorganization of the armed services at the Assembly National Defense Committee Monday. But the sizzling anger of the PPD lawmakers stopped short of exploding and driving them to resolve unilateral resignation from the Assembly. Their rhetoric in denouncing the ruling party was filled with ever stronger words but lacked any hint of mass action befitting the level of their infuriation.

In yesterday's debate among party members on future action, the mood was rather calm and reason seemed to prevail over emotion. The strongest action suggested was to boycott standing committees, whose session is to wind up today, and stage a protest at the Assembly.

This attitude was in sharp contrast with that demonstrated only a few days ago when most party legislators at a similar debate unequivocally called for giving up parliamentary seats en masse, thereby making the presence of DLP lawmakers in the Assembly look awkward. However much infuriated, PPD legislators are not set to resign. They have been repeatedly reminded by party President Kim Tae-chung of the need to maintain aplomb.

Kim's argument is that what the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) wants to see most is the opposition party giving up parliament as the battlefield and taking to the stress to arouse popular sentiments against the government and DLP. This rash action by the PPD, Kim maintains, gives the ruling party an excuse it has been waiting for to lay the whole blame for political and social instability at the PPD's door.

By pointing to the possible gains the ruling party reaps by doing nothing on its part, Kim may be justifying his reluctance to step out of parliament and begin a grueling popular antigovernment crusade. But anyhow, Kim's logic has appeal to his fellow party members. How long this logic holds, however, is an open question.

The unilateral passage of the military reorganization bill could be seen as a major test. But any similar way of dealing with bills on local assembly election and compensation of the victims of the 190 Kwangju uprising by the DLP would constitute a real test of PPD's patience.

This test, however, might never be posed at all, if room is found for compromise between the two parties. This

possibility seemed dim in the wake of the DLP's railroading of the military reorganization bill.

But the situation began to ameliorate yesterday as the DLP, prodded by Kim Yong-sam, one of the party's three co-leaders, showed flexibility and responded to the PPD's call for negotiations for political handling of the two legislative issues.

Kim Yong-sam and his parliamentary incarnation, DLP floor leader Kim Tong-yong, apparently were unaware of the decision to pass the military restructuring bill through the National Defense Committee.

The two Kims were obviously bypassed and this incidence cast serious doubt about the proclaimed reformatory role within the DLP of the group led by Kim Yong-sam.

Under Kim's influence, the DLP stopped short of forcing through the bill on reorganization of the armed services and another on the compensation of the Kwangju victims, which was transferred not without controversy from the ad hoc panel on the Kwangju question, to the Legislative and Judicial Committee yesterday.

The DLP co-leader reportedly called committee chairman Rep. Yi Chi-ho not to put the military reorganization bill on the agenda of the committee at all.

By Kim's intervention, confrontation of a worst kind, which seemed to be the normal course of actions, appears to have been avoided. But things are highly fluid these days and, as PPD President Kim Tae-chung says, it is impossible to predict what will happen tomorrow.

The gap between the two parties in compensating the Kwangju victims and setting the rules for local assembly elections is apparently insurmountable and time is running short.

When negotiations fail to produce compromise, passage of the two bills through voting is inevitable. To keep the recalcitrant opposition PPD within parliament, the ruling party needs to show more flexibility. As far as local autonomy election bill is concerned, it has nullified what has been agreed at the summit last December between President No Tae-u and then three opposition party leaders. By whatever cause, such an immoral and reactionary behavior cannot be justified.

The DLP may be calculating that the PPD would never be able to desert parliament and, therefore, committing some unnatural acts or neglecting minor procedural requirements would not cause a crisis.

New Group Draws Attention as Possible Party

SK1503021090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Mar 90 p 2

[News analysis by staff reporter Kang Song-chul: "Council for Democratic Reforms May Become Political Party"]

[Text] A right-wing organization of a national scale is being inaugurated with the participation of many prominent figures, including former lawmakers, cabinet ministers, and military generals. The projected group, named the Council of Pan-national Movement for Democratic Reforms, held a meeting of 2,138 promoters Tuesday. The council is drawing keen political attention with regard to the possibility of its becoming a political party.

Kim Yong-kap, former government administration minister, a key architect of the organization, says the group will exert efforts to safeguard the nation's liberal democracy. He says the council will not participate in politics.

But many people express doubt about whether the council will long remain outside the existing political circles.

Promoters of the organization include many widely known politicians, including former National Assembly Speaker Yi Chae-hyong, one-time opposition party president Yi Man-sop, and about 20 other former legislators. About 20 former cabinet members and 76 retired military generals are also participating in the movement. There are also figures from literary and academic circles, and various other sectors of society.

Meeting with reporters on the eve of the promoters' meeting, Kim said the chief objective of the projected organization is to exercise influence with an aim to safeguarding liberal democracy. He denied that the organization will turn into a political party, but many political observers are talking about the possibility of its becoming a party.

Some participants of the council are saying it will be somewhere between a political party and a social organization in its nature and activities. They are asserting that their professed goal of pushing democratic reforms cannot be separated from the overall political situation. They are also predicting that a considerable number of the council's participants will run for local councils, in case the existing political parties are banned from nominating candidates for coming local elections. They are also hinting that the council's rules will resemble a platform of a political party.

Not a few participants seem politically oriented, but it remains to be seen whether their position will prevail. There also exist skeptical views on the future of the projected organization. They are based on the reasoning that the social and political atmosphere now is quite different from that of last April, when the idea of inaugurating the council was first raised.

Skeptics say that the council's slogan for the safeguarding of liberal democracy seems unfit for the society of today which has become much stabilized when compared with about a year ago.

The public also may not pay much attention to the council's movement, thinking that conservative views

can be fully represented by the ruling Democratic Liberal Party inaugurated last month out of the merger of three largely conservative parties.

Union Leaders Arrested for Withholding Papers

SK1403015290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Mar 90 p 3

[Text] A company labor union leader was arrested yesterday for allegedly refusing to acquiesce in the Labor Ministry's inspection into the union operation.

Kim Un-im, 34, of Samsung Co. became the first union leader arrested for refusing to hand over union office papers to the authorities and was charged with violating the Labor Union Act. Prosecutors, acquiring arrest writs in advance, whisked away Kim from her office, while seeking Cha Su-yon, 31-year-old union leader of the Hanyang University Hospital.

The trade union at Samsung, a pharmaceutical firm, has been under probe for its association with the progressive National Council of Unions (Chonnohyop), that the labor authorities regard as an illegal organization and a threat to industrial peace. The Samsung union, one of hundreds of trade unions affiliated to Chonnohyop, has rejected the government probe for what Kim called a crackdown on the free and progressive union movement.

According to the charges, Kim has turned down four government requests for delivery of documents on budget operation and general conventions of the union since Feb. 7.

Cha Su-yon of the Hanyang University Hospital has twice refused submissions of union papers, necessary for the government probe. Both Kim and Cha were sued by the Labor Ministry last Friday.

The labor authorities, in the meantime, started an overall probe into 24 independent unions that play significant roles in the outlawed Chonnhyop. The leaders of 13 out of the 24 unions have been accused of violating the union act. Under Articles 30 and 47 in the Labor Union Act, the labor affairs authorities are entitled to conduct inspections and demand documents relating to union operations. Those failing to acquiesce in the administrational orders face up to three months in jail and 200,000 won in fines.

Some union leaders, however, refused to yield to the orders, asking for more concrete reasons for the inspection.

Ms. Chang Yong-ju, 26, a staffer of the Hanyang University Hospital, denounced the authorities for outlawing unions that have joined Chonnohyop so as to curb the free union movement.

"As our union is legal, so is Chonnohyop. There is no legal binding force to regulate the organization of the umbrella body," Chang noted.

Other union leaders facing legal action said they would go to jail, rather than yield to the groundless investigation.

The Seoul Subway Corporation Labor Union has also refused to offer documents to the pertinent authorities, even though it has been under threat of legal action for embezzlement charges.

Under the target of the probe are unions that donated money to Chonnohyop, triggered radical disputes, or provided financial aid to dissident organizations.

Workers Respond With Walkout

SK1503014890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Mar 90 p 3

[Text] Unionized workers affiliated with the outlawed Chonnohyop or National Council of Labor Unions walked off the job for two hours from 3 p.m. yesterday, protesting authorities' massive crackdown on the dissident labor body. The nationwide walkout came after law enforcement officials arrested Chonnohyop chairman Tan Pyong-ho and booked heads of its 50 member labor unions.

Refusing to work, workers of over 20 companies discussed measures at their workshops to cope with the authorities' crackdown against Chonnohyop and freeze of workers' wages. Some of them distributed leaflets at industrial complexes to publicize Chonnohyop's activities and denounce the government for launching massive anti-labor actions.

Meanwhile, the Labor Ministry, denouncing the walkout as illegal, said that it would report to the law enforcement authorities those who masterminded the two-hour walkout.

Chonnohyop claims that its members reach 200,000 workers from 600 labor unions across the nation while the government estimates them at 150,000 from 450 unions.

Chonnohyop launched the walkout because prosecutors booked its 50 labor union heads for failing to submit documents requested by the Labor Ministry, labor activists said. Last month, the ministry asked 139 labor unions affiliated with Chonnohyop to submit business documents as part of an inspection of their internal affairs but half the labor unions refused to follow the ministry order.

Chonnohyop members argued that the walkout is part of the legal union activities stipulated by the Trade Union Law, adding it is absurd for the government to brand it a partial strike. Meanwhile, Chonnohyop plans to launch massive rallies to denounce the authorities' crackdown on the labor movement and demand wage increases in 14 regions including Seoul, Masan, Ulsan and Changwon this Sunday.

Spring Semester Opens With Student Protests

SK1603014690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0146 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—Showers of firebombs marked the opening of the spring semester Thursday as some 1,000 students from four universities in Seoul held separate rallies to protest against the ruling party and the on-going South Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" military exercise.

Students from Yonsei, Ewha Women's, Kyunghui and Sungsil universities, chanting "We oppose Team Spirit" and "dismantle the Democratic Liberal Party," pelted riot police with rocks and gasoline bombs after on-campus rallies, the police said.

About 100 students from Sungsil in Southern Seoul staged a torchlight demonstration in the street for an hour before police dispersed them with tear gas. And 300 Kyunghui collegians marched along the road for an hour in front of their school, throwing 200 Molotov cocktails and stones at watching police troops, police said. At Yonsei, the 400 protesters were unusually reserved and no firebombs were reported.

At 6:50 a.M., 20 young people who looked like students hurled a score of firebombs at the regional labor affairs office of the Labor Ministry in Chongro Ward, downtown Seoul. At 7:30 a.m., some 50 members of the radical group Sochongnyon, or the Federation of Seoul Student Councils, raided the ruling party branch office in Sodaemun Ward, western Seoul, lobbing firebombs into the building. They were protesting the merger of two opposition parties with the ruling party and the "fraudulent liquidation" of the bad legacies of the former President Chon Tu-hwan's administration.

Court Ruling To Halt Practice of Rights Abuse

SK1003034290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0241 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—The Supreme Court, in a historic ruling against the prosecution and other law enforcement authorities, declared Friday that a defense attorney has a constitutionally guaranteed right to meet with his client that cannot be denied by anyone.

"It is a lawyer's inalienable right to meet and communicate with a defendant or a suspect under detention to safeguard his rights and prepare his client's defense," Justice Kim Yong-chun ruled for the highest tribunal. The justice handed out the verdict, regarded as putting a brake on the practice of alleged human rights abuse by law enforcement authorities in response to an appeal by the Seoul District Prosecutors' Office against a lower court's decision to allow defense counsel to meet with an arrested lawmaker.

Rep. So Kyong-won was ousted by the Party for Peace and Democracy in the summer of 1989, following the revelation that he had made an unauthorized visit to Pyongyang the previous year and his subsequent arrest.

Rejecting the prosecution's appeal, Kim said, "Unless statutory restrictions exist, a step by investigation authorities or a court's decision cannot limit the constitutional right of defense counsel."

The prosecution or other law enforcement authorities have frequently been accused of refusing to allow defense counsel to meet with suspects or defendants related to security issues and were trying to revise the criminal code to legalize their actions. The prosecution has defended its practise of denying attorneys contact with suspects in security cases by claiming that while the right to an interview with defense counsel is guaranteed it can be temporarily restricted for investigation's sake.

Three lawyers defending So and three other suspects involved in the lawmaker's case were not allowed last July to meet with their clients, who were charged under the National Security Law with crimes stemming from So's clandestine trip to North Korea.

So's counsel took their case to the Seoul Criminal District Court in August and the prosecution measure suffered a defeat. The prosecution appealed to the Supreme Court, where the lower court's verdict was upheld.

New Reunification Education Policy Critiqued

SK1003072690 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 10 Mar 90 p 3

[Editorial: "We Comment on 'The Guiding Data for Reunification Education'"]

[Text] There must be only one kind of truth for the specific historical facts that compose history. For example, no one would object to the fact that the American War of Independence broke out because the 13 American colonies rose up against Great Britain in 1775. The French Revolution, in which the people resisted the mismanaged government of the Bourbon throne, and the Bolshevik Revolution of Russia were glaring historical facts, though there can be different ways of assessing them.

However, oddly enough, different people mention different historical facts in our country. Also, historical facts change themselves with the passage of time and with different men. The debate as to who was responsible for the division of the Korean peninsula, for instance, has not yet been determined.

The government seems to have made up its mind to rectify this situation. The National Unification Board is reported to have made a so-called "Guiding Data for Reunification Education," which attempts to make a major revision in the data of modern history that is taught in schools.

Noteworthy here is that the Unification Board has tried to convert national reunification and national security education—which have been anticommunistic so far—into something more positive, dividing—"with proper balance"—the responsibility for the division of the Korean peninsula between the United States and the Soviet Union. This means that the government is attempting to bring forth a change in its fundamental position to date, a position in which the ROK traditionally pursued pro-U.S. anticommunism, and to make reference to a considerable degree to the revisionist view of history, which had been standing on the opposite side.

The Korean Educational Development Institute provided a similar "guideline" for middle and high school teachers some time ago. We however, regretfully feel that the present system, with the government in its center, is shaking at the foundation over this issue. Is not the government attempting to escape, for the present, from a hitherto pro-U.S., fundamentally anticommunistic position? Is it not in bewilderment hastily trying to accommodate the assertions of some people after the 29 June declaration? Some within the college-educated conscious masses nowadays have both heightened nationalistic sentiments and anti-U.S. feelings. These sentiments are leading to a rejection of anticommunism.

However, the historical facts do not offer any grounds to justify anti-U.S. sentiments or the rejection of anticommunism. In fact, there is no evidence that the Soviet Union is more friendly to us or more beneficial to our national interests than the United States, nor is there any evidence that the threat from the North Korean communists has diminished significantly enough for us to accommodate North Korean communism, or to coexist with them.

Under these circumstances, if we excessively stress that we have been "too pro-U.S. and too anticommunist," we are likely to allow the irresponsibly formed opinion of some people to be further misled.

The government seems to have provided the "guiding data for reunification education" to induce correct reunification education. We are worried, however, that it might result in the acceptance of a revisionist view that opposes the process of the formation of, and the existence itself of, the ROK—this by placing excessive emphasis on breaking from "pro-U.S. anticommunism."

We should not make enemies with anyone in the world, nor should we regard anyone as an enemy, including our compatriots in North Korea. In this sense, our nordpolitik is justified. At the same time, we should be aware that the values we pursue are democratic, in which individual human rights are respected, and all the people are equal under the law. Therefore, we should adhere to the principle of opposing a society in which political rivals are ruthlessly purged and human rights are trampled upon, and also oppose any form of dictatorship, cult of personality, or the maintenance of such a system.

In this context, we should not try to constantly change our views and positions on history in conducting "reunification education," but we should make efforts to exercise our continuous influence to induce the unchanging, underdeveloped system of North Korea to change itself.

Burma

Spokesman Discusses U.S. Indictment of Khun Sa

BK1603133190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1305 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Rangoon, March 16 (AFP)—The U.S. Embassy here has asked for a meeting with Burmese officials following the indictment in New York of opium warlord Khun Sa, an embassy source said Friday [16 March]. But a spokesman for Burma's military authorities warned that the government would not condone "any violation" of the country's sovereignty in an attempt to seize the drug kingpin. "A senior U.S. representative here had officially asked for an appointment with the authorities" in connection with the indictment of Khun Sa, the embassy source said. Khun Sa is considered the biggest heroin dealer in the Golden Triangle, the mountainous jungle-clad area where the borders of Burma, Laos and Thailand converge.

Military spokesman Colonel Aung Thein pointed out, however, that Rangoon had not so far been officially asked by Washington to take action following the indictment. He said that rounding up Khun Sa, who heads a guerrilla force in the Golden Triangle, was "easier said than done." "Catching Khun Sa is not as easy as catching a chicken," Col. Aung Thein told a press conference, adding that Burma would not condone "any violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity" to capture the drug dealer. (In Washington, U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh announced that an indictment had been returned in December following charges filed in a federal court in Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Thornburgh said the indictment had remained sealed until Thursday to allow time for unspecified "sensitive matters" to be resolved. He said the Burmese Government was "as determined governmentally as we are to deal with the problem." "This would be an important breakthrough for both them and us," Mr. Thornburgh said).

Khun Sa, 63, also known as Chang See-fu, has a guerrilla force of several thousand, the Shan United Army, which controls stretches of the Thai-Burmese and Burmese-Laotian borders. The charges filed against him in New York stem from the largest heroin seizure yet made in February 1988 in Bangkok—1,086 kilograms (2,394 pounds) bound for New York. The court also accused Khun Sa of exporting or trying to export about 1.6 tonnes of heroin to New York between September 1986 and February 1988.

Military Authorities Arrest 36, Mostly Students

BK1603130890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1247 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Rangoon, March 16 (AFP)—Burmese military authorities arrested 36 people, most of them students, between March 10 and 14 for allegedly attempting to instigate unrest, a military spokeman said Friday [16 March]. The spate of arrests—19 in this capital city and 17 in the ancient capital of Mandalay 750 kilometers (450 miles) to the north—followed attempts by students to commemorate the second anniversary of the death of their colleague Phone Maw on March 13. The 36 detainees were under interrogation, the spokesman said. Phone Maw, a Rangoon Institute of Technology student, was the first casualty during the 1988 student-led demonstrations which sounded the death-knell for the single-party socialist government which had ruled Burma for 26 years, by bringing on a military takeover in September of the same year.

A 19-member military junta led by General Saw Maung and calling itself the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) has since been engaged in restoring order after saving the nation from what it termed "the brink of disintegration." The SLORC, which has promised multi-party general elections on May 27, has stated that "the rule of law" was absolutely essential for the elections to succeed and has warned that "severe action would continue to be taken against anyone who attempts to disrupt the peace." "We will be holding the elections in only a little over two months' time (and the) SLORC is responsible for seeing that peace and tranquillity prevail," the spokesman, deputy military intelligence chief Colonel Than Tun, told repoters Friday. He went on to say that because of "improving conditions," martial law authority delegated to some divisional military commanders had been revoked in many areas. "Political parties taking part in the elections should cooperate to see that there is no recurrence of the unrest," the spokesman said, adding that the political parties should concentrate on campaigning rather than wasting their time making demands and asking for a dialogue with the SLORC. A large number of political parties have complained that the rules for campaigning set down by the SLORC were too rigid and asked for their revocation.

"We have given as much freedom and rights for campaigning as possible under the circumstances," the spokesman said and went on to reiterate the SLORC's pledge to successfully hold the elections. "We want to tell those political parties who are making unnecessary demands not to try and put us in a political corner," he warned. Over 90 political parties contesting in the forthcoming elections have started to campaign over state TV and radio. The National Unity Party (NUP)—formerly the Burma Socialist Programme Party—became the first political party to hold a mass rally in a Rangoon suburb on Thursday.

Martial Law Revoked in 12 Rangoon Townships

BK1503143590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council issued Martial Law Order No. 3/90, dated 15 March 1990, the fifth day of the waning moon of Tabaung, 1351 Myanmar [Burmese] Era. The order reads:

1. In order to ensure effectiveness in the implementation of security, law and order, and regional peace and

tranquillity, the State Law and Order Restoration Council issued Martial Law Order No. 1/89 granting the Yangon [Rangoon] Military Command the right to exercise martial law administrative and judiciary powers in the military region under its supervision and command. 2. Presently, as the law and order and regional peace and tranquillity situation has improved in the areas in the jurisdiction of the Yangon Military Command, martial law is hereby revoked in the following 12 townships effective the date of this order:

1. Hmawbi
2. Hlegu
3. Taikkyi
4. Tantabin
5. Thanhlyin
6. Kayan
7. Kyauktan
8. Thongwa
9. Twante
10. Kawhmu
11. Kungyangon
12. Coco island

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Khin Nyunt, Brigadier General
Secretary-1, State Law and Order Restoration Council

Thai Military Delegation Arrives in Rangoon

BK0903142890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] A goodwill delegation on a study tour from the Thai National Defense College led by General Phat Akkhanitbut, inspector general of the Royal Thai Army, arrived . . Yangon [Rangoon] at 0945 today by a special plane. The Thai delegation was welcomed at the airport by Lieutenant General Than Shwe, commander in chief of the Army; Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin, commander in chief of the Navy; Major General Tin Tun, commander in chief of the Air Force; Brigadier General Khin Nyunt, director of Defense Services Intelligence; Brig. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command; Colonel Sein Ya, director of training; Col. Thein Han, principal of the National Defense College; senior military officials; U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the military attaches of the Thai Embassy in Myanmar [Burma]. In the evening, Lt. Gen. Than Shwe, commander in chief of the Army, hosted a dinner in honor of the Thai study and goodwill delegation at the restaurant in the People's Square.

Meets Saw Maung

BK0903141890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] General Saw Maung, commander in chief of the Defense Services, received a goodwill delegation from the Thai National Defense College led by Gen. Phat Akkhanitbut, inspector general of the Royal Thai Army, at 1100 today at Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense. Present at the meeting were Lieutenant General Than Shwe, commander in chief of the Army; Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin, commander in chief of the Navy; Major General Tin Tun, commander in chief of the Air Force; Brigadier General Khin Nyunt, director of Defense Services Intelligence; Brig. Gen. Tin U, chief of staff of the Army; Colonel Sein Ya, director of training; Col. Thein Han, principal of the National Defense College; Col. Ba Hein, Myanmar [Burma] military attache to Thailand; U Ohn Kyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Col. (Norosa Phitaphun), Thai military attache.

Leaves Rangoon 11 Mar

BK1203070190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] A goodwill and study mission from the Thai National Defense College headed by General Phat Akkhanibut, Royal Thai Army inspector general, left Yangon [Rangoon] on a special plane at 1530 today. The Thai delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by Lieutenant General Than Shwe, army commander in chief; Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin, navy commander in chief; Major Tin Tun, air force commander in chief; Brigadier General Khin Nyunt, director of Defense Services Intelligence; Brig. Gen. Tin U, army chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command; Colonel Sein Ya, director of training; Col. Thein Han, principal of the National Defense College; senior military officials; U Nyunt Swe, Myanmar [Burmese] ambassador to Thailand; Colonel Ba Hein, military attache in Thailand; U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; and the military attaches of the Thai Embassy in Myanmar [Burma].

On 10 March, the Thai delegation, in the company of Military Attache Col. Ba Hein and National Defense College Principal Col. Thein Han, visited Shwedagon Pagoda, the People's Square and People's Park, Theingottara Gardens, the National Museum, the No. 1 [words indistinct], and the Fisheries Enterprises' refrigeration plant. This morning, the delegation visited Bago and was greeted by Brig. Gen. Aye Thaung, commander of the Central Military Command, and responsible officials. The Thai visitors returned to Yangon after touring the Shwemawdaw Pagoda, the Shwe Tha-hlayawng Pagoda, the Maha Chedi, and the [words indistinct].

Thai Army Intelligence Chief Arrives 15 Mar

BK1503153790 Rangoon Domestic Service in English 1445 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] The assistant chief of staff for intelligence of the Royal Thai Army, Lieutenant General Thawon Rattanawadi, and wife and his delegation arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] this afternoon. They were welcomed at

Yangon airport by the director of Defense Services Intelligence, Brigadier General Khin Nyunt, and wife; the commander of the Yangon Command, Brigadier General Myo Nyunt, and senior intelligence officers and their wives; the Thai Army and Air Force attache, Colonel Suchat Khetsira; the Myanmar [Burmese] military attache to Thailand, Colonel Ba Hein; and responsible officials. The director of Defense Services Intelligence, Brig. Gen. Khin Nyunt, and his wife hosted a dinner in honor of Gen. Thawon Rattanawadi and wife, and his delegation at No. 2 Tamadaw Guest House this evening.

Delegation Returns From Conference in Thailand

BK1203140090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Excerpt] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Colonel Pe Thein, minister for health and education and commander of the Universities Training Corps, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening after attending the "Education for All" international conference held in Jomtien, Thailand, under the auspices of the United Nations Development Program [UNDP], UNESCO, UNICEF, and the World Bank.

Minister Col. Pe Thein and his delegation were received at the airport by Major General Aung Ye Kyaw, minister for construction and cooperatives; Brigadier General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1, and Brig. Gen. Tin U, secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC]; Brig. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command; Col. Abel, minister for planning and finance and trade; U Kyaw Aye, director general of the Office of the SLORC; U Ko, director general of the Office of the Cabinet; U Ba Thwin, director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. (R. C. Karear), UNICEF resident representative; Mr. (R.R. Chowdhury), World Health Organization resident representative; Mr. (Michael Gottiya), deputy resident representative of the UNDP; and heads of departments and responsible officials from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education. [passage omitted]

Radio Carries Democracy Party's Campaign Speech

BK1303070390 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1400 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Speech by U Thu Wai, chairman of the Democracy Party; date, place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] People and parents: Do you want genuine democracy? Please vote for the Democracy Party if you want genuine democracy. [passage omitted] Elections determine the destiny of the country and the people. The forthcoming elections, in particular, will for the first time test the new system of multiparty democracy. Therefore, the political parties and people who cherish the multiparty democracy system should be careful on this point. Please do not treat it lightly.

People and parents: Did you not dislike the one-party system? The Democracy Party was at the forefront in resolutely opposing the one-party system. Some oppose it in words, but in deeds they are practicing the one-party system. There are many who once enjoyed the fruits of the one-party system during its era but are now passing themselves off as heroes of the movement against the one-party system. Should you believe them? If you believe them it is not their fault; it is your own fault.

I hereby publicly declare that none of the leaders of the Democracy Party ever enjoyed the fruits of the one-party system. By explaining this, I am not blaming those who have changed their beliefs. As a matter of fact, I am happy they have switched to the side of democracy, which is good. I am presenting this point to let the people think about the crucial political issue. You may ask: Since when did your Democracy Party dislike and oppose the one-party system? You may ask whether we declared our dislike for the one-party system only during the events of 1988. No. We have said that the one-party system is not good since the Revolutionary Council seized power in 1962. [passage omitted] Leaders of the Democracy Party have always been at the vanguard of the movement against the one-party system.

So, what is the policy of the Democracy Party? People should not have to be afraid of any person. They should have freedom of speech and movement as they wish. In short, we do not want the peasants—who constitute the majority in the Union—to be content with their land alone. We want them to be prosperous and happy and have their wishes fulfilled. We want their hardened hands full of calluses from using a hoe to become hands adept in handling science and technology. We want them to be able to enjoy literature, culture, and fine arts. Once they reach that stage, the peasants will have a widened horizon and obtain a high standard of living. We shall simultaneously strive for development of all other strata of society. If the peasants obtain a high standard of living, then all other members of the Union will also be assured of enjoying high standards. This, in brief, is the policy of the Democracy Party.

Myanmar [Burma] is a very lucky country indeed, as it is not very much threatened by natural disasters. Although the country became a lesser developed country due to incorrect economic policies, the country did not collapse completely, thanks to our rich natural resources. But we were not able to properly exploit the natural resources because of the incorrect system. People of Myanmar, please do not despair. If the Democracy Party were to change the system, under its leadership we would be able to catch up with Thailand in five years and overtake it in 10 years. I am not dreaming when I say this. Once the disease is diagnosed, there must be medicine. The Democracy Party knows and understands the disease of the Union. It is not difficult to treat, once the doctor can diagnose the disease. Candidates selected by the Democracy Party are reliable doctors of the party of the golden gong [a gong is the election symbol of the Democracy Party]. Please have full confidence in them.

In the new country the Democracy Party wants to construct, the government should be loved and respected by the people. The Defense Services, the People's Police, the peasants, and workers must be loved by the people. The public servants, artists, and students too must be loved by the people. We would like to construct such a democratic country. In other words, in a new Union of Myanmar to be constructed by the Democracy Party, there will be political, economic, and social justice. [passage omitted] It will not be correct if the national groups—on the grounds of racial difference—do not enjoy the rights of citizens. Members of the Union must love each other and cooperate. There must be a right to self-determination to ensure peace, prosperity, and perpetuity of the Union. We shall make the highest efforts to ensure there is no insurrection in order to have internal peace.

In international relations, the Union of Myanmar will play a suitable role in world affairs and have cultural and economic cooperation and relations and mutual assistance with other countries. This is the belief of the Democracy Party, which wants to construct the nation. We shall contest in the elections with this belief, which absolutely coincides with the belief of the people. I hereby hit the gong in appealing to you to vote wholeheartedly for the Democracy Party—the party of the golden gong. May the people and parents be filled with mingala [auspiciousness]. [sound of a gong heard]

Fire in Thaketa Township Destroys 360 Houses

BK1103095190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] A fire caused by negligence broke out in Thaketa township's Tasetaung 13/14 wards this afternoon at 1240. The fire, which started from the house of Daw Hla Chit who resides at 4th street, 14th ward, was caused by negligence while boiling hot water and because of prevailing high winds the fire spread quickly to the 14th and 13th wards.

Brigadier General Tin U, secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; Brig. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Division Military Command, Colonel Kett Sein, deputy commander; Col. Ko Lay, mayor, and committee members of the city development committee; Col. Thein Tun, commander of No. 2 military region; Col. Khin Latt, commander of Yangon military area; the director general of fire services department and responsible personnel from the city development committee, arrived at the scene and conducted fire fighting works. Fire engines from the fire services department headquarters and fire services department training school, fire engines from various townships, fire services personnel, and fire engines from various regiments arrived quickly at the scene. Soldiers from the 204th light infantry regiment; fire services reservists; Red Cross youths from Thaketa, Tamway, Thingangyun, and Dawbon townships; and the people carried out fire-fighting works expeditiously. The fire was brought under control at 1350 and totally extinguished at 1405.

The fire destroyed about 360 houses; 2,700 people from 580 households were rendered homeless. The fire victims were given temporary shelter at the Yenan Hall of the No. 4 state primary school and at the Dammayon of the Tayashittaung pagoda. Relief works are being carried out. Brig. Gen Tin U and Brig. Gen. Myo Nyunt urged the area military commander, the regional commander, various township and ward law and order restoration councils to take precautionary measures preventing further fires, to step up security, to rehabilitate fire victims systematically, and to carry out relief works swiftly. The authorities concerned have requested aid for the fire victims. Thaketa Township Law and Order Restoration Council has also formed a fire relief central committee to perform relief work effectively. Peoples and parties wishing to help the fire victims can do so by contacting the office of the Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council, phone no. 82076; the office of the Yangon Township Zone Law and Order Restoration Council, phone no. 76699; or the office of the Thaketa Township Law and Order Restoration Council, phone no. 52639 and 52168.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Anti-Drug Task Force on Trafficking, Addiction

BK1603081590 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0738 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 16 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Seventy-three people have been sentenced to death for drug trafficking offences in Malaysia until last November, the Malaysian Anti-Drugs Task Force said Friday [16 March]. According to the latest statistics, this included two each from Pakistan and Indonesia and one from the Philippines.

During the same period, 16 traffickers including six foreigners were executed under section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act which carries the death penalty upon conviction. The task force did not reveal the citizenship of the six foreigners.

The task force noted that drug addiction in Malaysia remained at an alarming level last year, based on the volume of drugs seized and number of processing laboratories detected, and rehabilitated addicts who became dependents again.

The task force said 8,345 former drug dependents throughout the country became addicts again during the period last year compared with 7,200 in 1988. More than 5,000 new addicts have also been detected until last September.

Among the drugs seized by the authorities last year were 307.95 kg of heroin compared with 301.5 kg in 1988. Six drug laboratories were detected last year bringing the total to 33 discovered between 1973 and December last year.

Singapore

Bilateral, Defense Ties With Neighbors Viewed

BK1503162590 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Mar 90 p 18

[Text] Singapore's defense relations with its neighbors were determined by the state of their overall bilateral relations, Second Defense Minister (Service) Lee Hsien Loong said yesterday. If the overall relations were good, defense ties would naturally prosper. Likewise, if problems cropped up, as they did from time to time, relations would be similarly affected.

He was responding to Mr. S. Chandra Das (Cheng San GRC), the Chairman of Government Parliamentary Committee for Defense and Foreign Affairs, who had asked for an update on the state of bilateral and multilateral defense relations between Singapore and its neighbors.

Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Lee said defense relations with the neighbors were "derivative and not primary", adding that they were determined by the state of overall bilateral relations. "They do not by themselves determine our bilateral relations with neighbors although of course they add something to it.

"When bilateral relations are good, naturally defense relations also prosper. "But when from time to time overall relations run into problems for other reasons, which inevitably happens, then defense relations too naturally will become more distant although they should still be correct.

"Provided in the longer run overall relations recover, which is in the rational interest of both sides, then defense relations will in due course pick up again," he said. He said that Mindef's [Ministry of Defense] policy was to build close defense relations with the neighbors.

"The more channels of communications we have, the more opportunities for inter-action we create, the better we will understand each other, and the less likely we are to harbor unfounded suspicions of each other's motives or wrong assessments of each others competence and abilities," he said. Because of this, he said, Singapore held regular combined exercises and other forms of diplomacy with the ASEAN nations, the Five Power Defense Arrangement (FPDA) partners and other countries.

He disclosed that defense ties between Singapore and Indonesia would be broadened, following the success of the cooperation between the Singapore Armed Forces and ABRI [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia], its counterpart. "The two armed forces are now discussing additional possibilities for broadening their scope of cooperation, especially between the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) and their TNI-AU (the Indonesian Air Force)," he said.

The RSAF, he said, had been using the Siabu Air Weapons Range since it was opened last March. Six detachments were carried out last year and another five were being planned for this year.

RSAF also conducted a Joint Weapons Course with the Indonesians with instructors and student pilots from both sides. The first had been held in June 1988 while the second was now in progress. This was in two phases, he added. The first, the academic phase, was held here in February while the second, the flying phase, would take place in Pekan Baru, using Siabu Range, later this month.

As for army exercises with Indonesia, he said that the first army combined exercise, Safkar Indopura, was held here in December last year. Indonesia will host the second exercise in December this year.

On ties with Brunei, Brig. Gen. Lee said that a naval exercise, codenamed Exercise Pelican, was being held now at the Tactical Training Center in Brani Naval Base. A Brunei Platoon will join an SAF [Singapore Armed Forces] armour battalion for the first live firing exercise, called Juggernaut, in April and May.

Another live firing exercise called Flaming Arrow, involves a Brunei infantry company and an SAF infantry battalion. The second Flaming Arrow exercise will be held in July and August.

On relations with Malaysia, he said two land exercises, codenamed Semangat Bersatu, were conducted for the first time last year—the first held here in May, the second in Sarawak in October.

To a question from Non-constituency MP [member of Parliament] Lee Siew Choh, who asked whether a joint military operation would be conducted with Burma, following a visit there by Lieutenant General Winston Choo, the Chief of General Staff of the Singapore Armed Forces, he said Singapore had no plans to train its soldiers there.

Cambodia

KPNLF Says China Will Resume Arms Supplies

BK1603011790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Mar 90 p 2

By Thana Phuphat]

[Text] Aranyaprathet—The Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) army will be able to resume its offensive against the Phnom Penh forces now that China has lifted its three-month suspension on arms supplies. KPNLF military spokesman Ok Serei Sopheak

told THE NATION yesterday that KPNLF and its major arms supplier, China, have already settled a "misunderstanding" over KPNLF's refusal to cooperate with the Marxist Khmer Rouge in the battlefields. "China now seems to understand us and we expect arms supplies from China to resume very soon," Sopheak said. The spokesman said the KPNLF was informed by Chinese authorities a few days ago that the cut in military supplies, including artillery shells and ammunition had been lifted, and that the first shipment of fresh supplies from China is expected soon. "We (the KPNLF) were also assured by China that the misunderstanding that cost us Svay Chek has been cleared up now and that such a misunderstanding would not happen again," he said.

Svay Chek, a western Cambodian town, which had been "liberated" by KPNLF, was easily recaptured by Phnom Penh forces in late February because KPNLF soldiers ran out of ammunition due to the cut in military aid by China. KPNLF ranks second in military strength among the three Cambodian resistance forces after the Khmer Rouge which is blamed for the massacre of about two million Cambodians during its reign of terror from 1975 to 1979. The KPNLF, Khmer Rouge and National Sihanoukist Army, belong to the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), which seeks to overthrow the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh regime. China supplies most of the weaponry and ammunition to the Cambodian resistance groups. The arms supplies are transported through Thai territory.

The spokesman said KPNLF would continue to cooperate with the other two Cambodian resistance forces on the diplomatic front, which has been successful in retaining the CGDK's seat at the United Nations. "Although we (the three resistance forces) have common enemies—Phnom Penh regime and its backer, Vietnam—we have different military targets," he said. Sopheak said KPNLF does not want to identify itself with the Khmer Rouge, particularly at a time when a peace settlement in Cambodia and an eventual general election seem within reach.

U.S. Stance on Settlement Viewed as 'Correct'

BK1603041490 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 15 Mar 90

[News commentary: "The United States' Policy Toward a Comprehensive Political Settlement of Vietnam's War of Aggression Against Cambodia"]

[Text] David Lambertson, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, recently told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that a growing number of governments in the world believe that the key to settling Vietnam's war of aggression against Cambodia is that the United Nations should play a crucial role in the search for a comprehensive political solution, meaning that:

1. A UN international control mechanism should verify the withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor troops from Cambodia.
2. A provisional, equal quadripartite government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk should be established to organize free and fair elections.

Lambertson also noted that the United States would continue its efforts to enhance the UN role. The stance adopted by the United States on a comprehensive political settlement of the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia is very correct and equitable. It does not want to settle the war in conformity with the Hanoi authorities and their cheap lackey puppets' misleading propaganda on the Vietnamese troop pullout, without strict and effective control and supervision by the United Nations.

VONADK Reports 15 Killed in Kompong Thom

BK1403133890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Excerpt] On 26 February, 130 Vietnamese enemy soldiers left Baray district town and moved north along Route 6. Upon arriving at Kompong Thmar market [in Kompong Thom Province], these Vietnamese bandits and murderers jumped off the trucks and fired indiscriminately with automatic handguns and machineguns on the people selling vegetables and Cambodian soldiers in the Kompong Thmar market. Fifteen of our people and Cambodian soldiers died there, and four others were wounded. [passage omitted]

VODK Reports 27 Feb Ambush in West Battambang

BK1603035490 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] On 27 February, our national resistance forces ambushed and routed a Vietnam-puppet regiment moving from Kamping Puoy to Pech Changva in the west Battambang town battlefield. We killed 25 enemy soldiers—including a battalion commander—on the battlefield, wounded 20 others, and captured one. We seized 18 firearms—five B-40 rocket launchers, 12 AK's, and one CETME gun, 30 80-mm mortar shells, 20 rounds for DK-22 guns, 100 rockets for B-40 rocket launchers, 40 rounds for M-79 grenade launchers, 3,000 rounds for AK rifles, 80 rucksacks, and some war material.

Sweeping Operations Launched in Banteay Meanchey

BK1603085790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] According to news sources in the Banteay Meanchey Province field command, during the first 10 days of March the Armed Forces, police, and militia of various localities in Banteay Meanchey Province launched joint sweeping operations in the areas along both sides of Route 69 from Slar Kram Village, Ta Ben Commune, to Treas Commune of Thmar Puok District. Clashing with

the enemies, they killed 10 of them, wounded 16 others, took 29 prisoners, and seized 15 assorted weapons and a large quantity of war material.

A prisoner of war our armed forces captured on the battlefield led us to one of the bandits' arms caches. We unearthed 73 assorted guns which were hidden by the bandits before they abandoned the Svay Chek Battlefield. Besides fighting, our armed forces also welcomed 38 enemy deserters. They were former sereika [Son Sann's] soldiers of the so-called 2d and 6th operational zones. These returning enemy soldiers also surrendered to our armed forces 31 guns, including 23 AK's, two B-40 and B-40 ½ rocket launchers, and six M-18's and M-16's, and other war materials. On 10 March, five sereika commando unit members with five weapons surrendered at Banteay Siem and 13 others with 13 weapons surrendered at Svay Chek. From a position of superiority, our Armed Forces on various battlefields along Route 69 are now winning more successes over the enemies. They continue to conduct sweeping operations against the three groups of bandits with great determination and courage.

Bou Thang Tours Army Units in Border Areas

BK1503104590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Between 24 February and 6 March, to timely extend commendation and solve problems on the battlefield, a party-state delegation led by Comrade General Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chief of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, visited and presented gifts to cadres and combatants of the Armed Forces units in Svay Chek [Banteay Meanchey] and Pang Roloem [Battambang Province].

Comrade Gen. Bou Thang conveyed best regards from our party and state to cadres and combatants there and highly praised them for victories won on the two battlefields by inflicting shameful defeats on the enemies. Comrade Gen. Bou Thang spoke on the great sacrifices made by our cadres and combatants, thus contributing to increasingly enhancing the international prestige of the State of Cambodia. The comrade also stressed that the victories on the two battlefields clearly reflected the position of mastery of our Armed Forces and people who are currently carrying out effectively the slogan: Everything for the battlefield; everything for enhancing the people's trust in the new regime. On the same occasion, Comrade Gen. Bou Thang visited the people who have just fled from the zone controlled by the enemies, the people's committees of Banteay Meanchey Province and Phnum Srok District, Prey Veng Province's Armed Forces, and the 196th Division.

On 4 March, the delegation left Battambang Province by car for Pursat Province. During its stay in Pursat Province, the delegation visited the provincial people's committee, the 94th Brigade, Phnum Kravanh District People's Committee, and the fraternal Muslims in Phnum Kravanh District. Also during this visit, Comrade Gen. Bou Thang conferred victorious medals and commissioned ranks on cadres and combatants who made outstanding feats in the 1989-90 dry-season offensive on Svay Chek and Pursat battlefields.

Sar Kheng Pays Visit to Kompong Cham 9-10 Mar

BK1603074390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Comrade Sar Kheng, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat, and chief of the party Central Committee Cabinet, paid a visit to the people, cadres, combatants, and militiamen in Spoe and Cheyou Communes and to Buddhist monks and lay devotees at Spoe Temple in Chamka Leu District, Kompong Cham Province, from 9 to 10 March.

Speaking during conversations, Comrade Sar Kheng admired the heroic feats and examples of our people and militiamen who made unreserved efforts to consolidate local defense and contribute to the safety of the people in the district seat as well as in the rest of the province. He also underlined the situation of the Cambodian revolution at the new stage, where we are steadily winning both political and military victories over the enemies. Concerning the solution to the Cambodian problem, the comrade exposed the true nature and trickery of Sihanouk, who continues to support and associate himself with the Pol Pot criminals and to demand the dissolution of the State of Cambodia Government—the sole force capable of preventing the recurrence of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Comrade Sar Kheng also stressed the immediate tasks of our people and urged them to strengthen unity, assist each other in their daily lives, encourage their children to serve in the Armed Forces to prevent the return of the genocidal regime, and persuade every child to go to school to contribute to the growth and prosperity of the country. At the same time, Comrade Sar Kheng also talked about military successes won over the past few years at the western border. Dealing with the Jakarta informal meeting, he denounced Khieu Samphan, who represented the party of Democratic Kampuchea, for the maneuver of using the veto right against a political solution to the Cambodian problem. Comrade Sar Kheng emphasized the objectives of tasks put forward by the 10th plenum of the party Central Committee, which concentrated on the two common duties of consolidating the military and security advantages and strengthening internal unity and solidarity in line with the two slogans: Everything in the service of the front line; and Everything for the enhancement of the people's faith in the new regime.

Editorial Views Consolidating Party Leadership

BK1303080790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 Mar 90

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Pay Attention to Consolidating Party Members' Role in the Armed Forces and Ensure Strong Leadership in Localities"—date not given]

[Text] The growth and development of armed forces units in localities depends on the leadership's capability to command troops and build units of cadres and party members. Therefore, the task to build firm local units is the primary one of party organizations within local armed forces units. Party units should pay attention to strengthening their role and carrying out their tasks well.

In past years, realizing the importance of local units, all levels of the party have understood and paid attention to gradually building local units in every field based on ideology work, with party building as the core and with cadres as the keys. The party has in the past rallied the forces of the people, masses, and armed forces to contribute to every revolutionary movement. These activities have a resolute character and have always scored successes. In 1989, the majority of our local units, cadres, and party members consolidated their role and were worthy of the people's and masses' confidence. Having grasped party policies on the current situation and revolutionary tasks, our party members in the Armed Forces have strengthened their leadership and achieved all-round progress. In battles as well as in building units, in the past as in the present, Cambodia's own forces have to assume for themselves the country's defense. Each party member has endowed himself with a spirit to fight and be ready to fight courageously and valiantly to smash all three types of enemies, whose aim is to topple our State of Cambodia.

With a spirit to implement and achieve party members' six tasks, many model party members and outstanding youths have been discovered and successively introduced into party ranks. At battalion and district forces levels, although the building of party chapters has not yet fully been undertaken, under the direct leadership and guidance of provincial and municipal parties, regiments and divisions in military regions have vigorously promoted the task to build and consolidate party chapters and raise party members' quality. This has deepened the party's hold among the masses, people, and combatants and ensured all-round leadership down to local level. Strengthening local party organizations, particularly building party chapters with a vanguard character, is the most necessary and important task, which requires a multitude of forces of the masses to contribute to further consolidating local units. The party members' role should be constantly raised to further improve party members' quality and ensure better development of party members.

In the situation in the country, a noteworthy point is that a small number of our cadres and party members still do not possess a resolute fighting spirit and have not been constantly in touch with the masses and combatants at lower levels. This year our struggle with the enemy will reach its most complicated and resolute phase—militarily, politically, and diplomatically. Thus, the building of real revolutionary forces is the firm core of leadership in every revolutionary movement. To achieve good results in leading and building firm units, party organizations—particularly party chapters in localities—should continue providing guidance on building, strengthening, and improving the quality of party chapters in every field. Regular life-style meetings and criticism and self-criticism should be firmly and consistently maintained, aimed at overcoming shortcomings and vigorously promoting active work.

Each party member should by himself increase his self-awareness and his own control measures in fighting, administering units, and in improving the daily life of cadres and combatants at lower levels. He should at all times be exemplary in every field, including implementing and abiding by party policies, state decrees and laws, and various decisions, for example on fighting, political and military education, and military tactics. Each party member should also be trained to fully function and carry out tasks in localities, including tasks to build the party, promote awareness and a fighting will to smash the enemy, and endow party members with a revolutionary spirit of vigilance to oppose enemy maneuvers and tricks. Party members should dare to think, stand up, and be responsible to the party and the people in every activity. Solidarity and mutual assistance should be increased to be worthy of an army genuinely born of the people and for the people. International solidarity with friendly Vietnam, Laos, and the Soviet Union should be constantly strengthened. Discipline, an ordinary and clean way of life, diligence, and thrift should be well observed. These are tasks our party should do its best to carry out.

Party organizational structures should be further consolidated among local units. First of all, outstanding cadres and combatants and core cadres should be included into party ranks. To build firm and strong regimental and divisional units, provincial and municipal forces, and the entire army, local units should be strong. To have strong local units, attention should be paid to building their all-round quality, with political quality as the basis. In political quality, political education and ideological training should be first considered in building core party members and key cadres.

Feeling of Despair Among Cambodians Reported

BK1403031990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Mar 90 p 5

[By James Pringle in Phnom Penh]

[Text] The new army recruits had been training for two weeks, and there was to be a graduation party, they were told. When you earn only 500 riel (about 32 baht) a

month, a party is something to look forward to. Rudimentary training in arms drill at an end, the day of the party arrived; the recruits were told to climb on trucks to go off to the celebration. In the event, the trucks drove straight to the front in western Cambodia, relatives of the recruits said. This happened in February, just prior to the offensive launched by troops of the Vietnam-installed Hun Sen regime against the non-Communist resistance holding Svay Chek, a town in western Cambodia. In the event, with little-trained cannon fodder on both sides, Svay Chek was recaptured.

In Phnom Penh these days, a familiar waiter or bicycle trishaw driver might disappear. When you ask for him, you are told that he is "guarding the capital," somewhere beyond the periphery. Such people usually show up a month or two later; sometimes they never reappear. These days, young men take care when emerging from the little video cinemas showing escapist movies everywhere in the capital. They are a favourite recruiting ground. As was the case last September just before the pullout of the Vietnamese army (some of whose troops have allegedly returned) the regime has been recruiting again.

February was not a good month in Cambodia for the ordinary citizens of Phnom Penh. The Cambodian currency, the riel, went on a mad spiral downwards, and for two days there was no rice for sale in the capital. At one stage, the black market was as high as 500 riel to the dollar. (Last week, it was back at 350). People began hoarding food, and even packing bags for a quick getaway from the capital, mindful of the Khmer Rouge entry into Phanom Penh in 1975, at the start of the time of the Killing Fields. They were afraid of rice shortages and of the renewed fighting in Western Cambodia. Now, in 1-March, some tenuous stability has been restored. But the mood of ordinary people in Cambodia these days, following the predictable failure of the Jakarta informal peace talks late last month, is not just one of disillusionment—it is despair. "All sides seem to believe it is better to go on fighting rather than compromise and share power," said one East European envoy here. There is little hope among ordinary Cambodians that the meeting of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, who convened for a third time in Paris on Monday to search for a breakthrough will produce results, though diplomats here feel that this is the most likely forum for progress now.

At one stage earlier this year, there was a certain hope among people in Phnom Penh that the non-Communist resistance was doing so well in seizing land in western Cambodia from the Vietnam-backed government here that a compromise was inevitable. "But then reports started coming through that the non-Communist troops were behaving badly, stealing from the people, and raping girls," said one Cambodian shopkeeper in the capital. "People began to lose heart. Are there no Cambodians left to be trusted?" Officers of the non-Communist resistance have themselves spoken of problems of indiscipline among their troops, and the faction loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the resistance leader, has shot some solders for committing crimes against ordinary Cambodians.

At the same time, the heavy-handedness of the Hun Sen regime, which is ruled by a triumvirate of former Khmer Rouge (Hun Sen, party chief Heng Samrin, and politburo member Chea Sim) is resented by a majority of Cambodians who nevertheless prefer it to a return to power of the Khmer Rouge, believed responsible for up to a million deaths when they ruled Cambodia from 1975-79. "Democracy is when you are ready to share power or step down on the demand of the people," said one East European diplomat here. "This is not democracy. The leadership wants to continue in power, and to expand its base, not to share power.

Most resented here is the wealth and influence of the Noomenklatura, the senior officials of the communist People's Revolutionary Party (PRP) which enjoys the "leading role" in this one-party state. "The Noomenklatura have villas, cars, and can travel abroad while their children dodge the draft," said another East European envoy. "They don't want to share power because to do so is to share privilege. You don't want other people to sit down at the table and eat the cake you baked." Noted one Soviet diplomat: "People don't want to compromise by moving out of their comfortable chairs—we have the same problem at home."

The general despairing malaise seems even to be affecting these international relief agencies traditionally supportive of the Hun Sen regime. "Most of us agree that things have gone as far as they can under the present set-up," said one official of a British relief agency, normally close to the government here. "There is a mood for change in Cambodia." Many of Cambodia's traditional allies among the diplomatic community are also despairing. Talking of the manoeuvring of the four bickering groups, one envoy said: "All the Cambodian factions are behaving as if this was a kindergarten. We are fed up with these foolish, childish things. If they carry on like this it will be the end of the interest of the whole world."

National Bank Communique on 100-Riel Bank Note

BK1503094590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Mar 90

["Communique of the Cambodian People's National Bank in compliance with the decree-law No. 11 of the Council of Ministers dated 15 March 1990 on the issuance of a new type of 100-Riel bank notes"—dated 13 March]

[Text] To meet the requirements of the national economy which is advancing with each passing day, the Council of Ministers has authorized the Cambodian People's National Bank to issue and circulate throughout the State of Cambodia a new denomination of the Riel bank note, that is a 100-Riel bank note. The issuance of this new Riel bank note is in addition to the various

denominations of bank notes issued previously in order to facilitate various payments. The Cambodian People's National Bank hereby wishes to publicize the special characteristics of the 100-Riel bank note as follows:

1. Form and color:

A) The front part: The term STATE OF CAMBODIA is written on the upper part. A picture of the great leader Son Ngoc Minh is printed on the right side. A picture of the Victory Monument, formerly the Independence Monument, is printed on the left side. The national emblem of the State of Cambodia is printed in the middle. The Cambodian figure of 100 Riel is printed on the right and left sides of the words STATE OF CAMBODIA. The Cambodian term ONE HUNDRED RIEL is written beneath the national emblem. The Cambodian figure of 100 Riel is written on a picture of a lotus flower on the right side of the lower part of th picture of great leader Son Ngoc Minh. The Arabic figure of 1990 is written on the right side of the lower part of the Victory Monument. Designs of lotus flowers are printed around the national emblem of the State of Cambodia. Ancient designs and other drawings are printed around the bank note as a device to prevent counterfeit. The prominent hue is light green.

B) The back part: The term CAMBODIAN PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK is written on the upper part. On the right side are a picture of the prow of the ancient boat sculptured at the Bayon Temple in the era between the end of the 11th century and the beginning of the 12th century and a picture of workers tapping rubber trees and pouring latex at Chup plantation in Kompong Cham Province following the liberation day of 7 January 1979. On the left side are the term CAMBODIAN PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK and the Cambodian figure of 100 riel. Below the picture of the workers tapping rubber trees and pouring latex is the Cambodian term ONE HUNDRED RIEL. Below the prow of the boat is the Arabic figure of 100 riel. Around the bank note, there are ancient designs and some other drawings as a device to prevent counterfeit.

C) Other characteristics: The tissue of the paper bears designs of flowers and is embedded with short and thin shreds of metal.

2. Size: 137 millimeters long and 63 millimeters wide.

Please carefully examine all these special characteristics in order to prevent misunderstanding. The value of this bank note is effective 15 March 1990. Anyone who refuses to accept this bank note as payment will be punished according to the existing laws.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 15 March 1990

[Signed] Cha Rieng, Chairman Cambodian People's National Bank

Indonesia

Murdiono Discusses Relations With China, Taiwan

BK1503105390 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1011 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Jakarta, March 15 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia is interested in the normalization of diplomatic relations with China without affecting its trade and economic relations with Taiwan, despite its persistence with the one-China policy, Minister-State Secretary Murdiono has stated.

Murdiono made the remark before members of the Indonesian Financial Executive Association (IFEA) here Thursday [15 March] in his capacity as coordinator of the Indonesia-China direct trade relations.

"In the implementation of the one-China policy, we intend to maintain and intensify the utilization of Taiwan's economic potentials for the sake of national development," he further said. The reopening of diplomatic relations with China should not have negative side effects on Taiwan's trade and investment activities in this country, Murdiono revealed.

The available data indicate that the bilateral trade volume betwee Indonesia and China keeps growing.

The value of Indonesia's exports to China, which averaged 16 million-17 million U.S. dollars in the 1982-1984 period, jumped to 343 million U.S. dollars in 1987 and 494 million U.S. dollars in the first 11 months of 1989.

He admitted that the balance of trade between the two countries mostly showed deficits for Indonesia, except in 1988, the deficit was sustained by China. But the deficit Indonesia sustains keeps declining.

China is a potential market for Indonesia's commodities, but Indonesian exporters still experience discriminative treatments in exporting their products to China, Murdiono said.

He pointed out that China has imposed extra import duty of 10 to 3 percent on Indonesian commodities, whereas several countries enjoy special facilities in trade with China.

Touching on the investment sector, Murdiono explained that the Indonesian Government has not allowed Chinese companies operating in China to make direct investment in Indonesia.

Editorial Views Normalizing Ties With China

BK1503100190 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 12 Mar 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Relations With China"]

[Text] It appears there are no longer any principal difficulties standing in the way of the normalization of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and China. As

stated by an official of the Chinese Foreign Ministry in Beijing, the problem of Indonesia's debts to China is now only a technical matter.

In this climate, a team of Indonesian officials from the ministries of trade, finance and foreign affairs is due to travel to Beijing either later this month or in early April to settle the last remaining technical problems, and to pave the way for Foreign Minister Ali Alatas's visit to the Chinese capital, scheduled to take place some time at the end of next month after Id al-Fitr.

Viewed from a number of standpoints, his visit will be an historic milestone marking developments in Indonesian foreign policy under the current Fifth Development Cabinet. It will not be the foreign minister's first visit to Beijing; as Indonesia's permanent representative to the United Nations, Alatas attended a UN conference in the Chinese capital a few years ago.

However, for the visit to acquire real significance, and for the normalization of relations to be a truly meaningful event for Indonesia—rather than merely a diplomatic must because it would be odd these days for two large Asian countries not to have relations—it is advisable that we now begin to consider the significance of relations with China.

Maintaining relations with China is vastly more important than merely opening up its supposedly huge domestic market for trade. China's economic growth has been rather impeded lately and it seems that its economic difficulties have increased.

Since we have been out of touch with developments inside China for so long, it is important we familiarize ourselves with China's views towards the outside world—particularly its perceived role in the Asia-Pacific region.

This is not an easy task. From now on, Indonesia should systematically prepare future specialists on China—not only experts on its world views, but also on its industrial growth plans and its changing consumer demands, and the sociological changes that are taking place in Chinese society which are not immediately apparent when viewed from the outside.

But even more important is that Indonesia can use the presence of a diplomatic representation in Beijing to prepare for any possible major change in China's political structure and the power distribution among the ruling elite.

It is of course in our interest that if and when such changes do take place—and they seem inevitable given the fact that most of China's leaders are hardly young anymore—that they do not cause any great upheavals whose effects could spill over into the surrounding regions.

Any development which upsets the stability in East Asia will be detrimental to this country's development efforts. For that reason it is important that Indonesia maintains a representation in Beijing to monitor the developments there.

Aeroflot's Moscow-Jakarta Route To Reopen

BK1603080990 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0728 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Jakarta, March 16 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Soviet airline Aeroflot will on June 1 this year reopen its flight service from the Soviet Union to Indonesia after a five-year stop because of an espionage case.

A cooperation agreement on the reopening of the route was signed by president director of the Indonesian flag carrier Garuda Suparno and Aeroflot International Commercial Director General V.D. Samorukov in Moscow on March 11, a press release from Garuda said Thursday [15 March].

As a follow up of the agreement, the two airlines will set up representative offices in each destination country.

Suparno and Samorukrov said that in the next few months Garuda and Aeroflot will examine the terms of the cooperation especially to cope with the boom in the demand for air transport services.

Officials from the two countries have held preliminary talks on the cooperation between the two airlines before the signing of the agreement.

Laos

Thai Princess Continues Visit to Vientiane

Attends Banquet

BK1603031890 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] At 1930 yesterday, His Excellency Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], hosted a dinner reception at the Council of Ministers' guest house in Vientiane in honor of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand, who is currently paying an official friendship visit to the LPDR. Present as guests of honor at the reception were His Excellency Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; His Excellency Sali Vongkhamsao, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; His Excellency Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the Lao People's Army General Staff and chairman of the Vientiane Municipality administrative committee; ministers and deputy ministers; and a large number of military and civilian cadres.

Phoumi Vongvichit Speaks

BK1603132390 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Speech by Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, delivered at a banquet held in honor of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand in Vientiane, 15 March—recorded]

[Text] Highly respected Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon; highly respected Excellencies; ladies and gentlemen:

Today, I am highly honored and very pleased to have the glorious opportunity to offer this banquet in honor of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon who is currently paying an official, friendly visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and has brought to the Lao people today expressions of close friendship from the Thai people. [applause] On behalf of the government of the LPDR and the entire Lao people, I would like to express wholehearted greetings and gratitude to her royal highness the princess for her broad-mindedness in thinking of the Lao people and sacrificing her valuable time to pay us a visit, which has promoted the further and continued strengthening of fraternal bonds between the peoples of the two countries. [applause]

As we know well, Laos and Thailand are brotherly nations that have maintained a blood relationship since ancient times. Our history notes that the people of the Ai Lao race—original ancestors of the Lao and Thai peoples who now enjoy prosperity and a highly cultured civilization—existed together in this land for centuries. At present, although the Lao and Thai races have grown up and developed into two countries maintaining their respective independence and sovereignty, with the close spiritual relations and the similarities in basic manners, cultures, customs, religion, and languages, our two peoples of Laos and Thailand have called themselves brothers of two fraternal countries. Regarding this, I note that the Lao and Thai peoples have never used this term in their relations with people of any other country.

It is true that on certain occasions, Lao-Thai relations were not going smoothly—sometimes good, sometimes bad. I believe such the events are normal for neighboring countries; as a Lao phrase says [words indistinct]. No matter what the situation may be, Laos and Thailand remain bound together by land, water, and mountain ranges. No enemy can separate the two countries nor can it separate the Lao and Thai peoples who have maintained close relations and mutual love for thousands of years. Thai people speak the Thai language while Lao people speak Lao, but we can understand each other with no interpreter. For this reason, I am earnestly convinced that our two countries, as in the past, can together resolve, through peaceful means, all problems which have resulted in a misunderstanding between Laos and Thailand. There is a proverb saying where there is a will, there is a way.

Both the Lao and Thai peoples understand well that they must maintain good relations to increasingly develop more fruitfully the fraternal bonds. The most important point in that it is necessary to establish and strengthen mutual trust, because mutual trust will be the basis for true friendship and fraternity. Therefore, this official, friendly visit by her royal highness the princess is considered a great contribution to the establishment of the firm and genuine mutual trust for the peoples of our two countries. This visit will be recorded in the histories of our two countries forever.

Highly respected Your Royal Highness: I am firmly convinced that to establish and develop the fraternal and good-neighborly relations between the two countries and peoples of Laos and Thailand is the just aspiration and requirement of the two peoples. I firmly believe that it is also the desire of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet, the great, and her majesty the queen, as well as of all members of the royal family of the Kingdom of Thailand.

For their side, the Lao people and the government of the LPDR have always desired to maintain and promote fraternal and good-neighborly relations on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and cooperation in building and developing the economy and culture so the two peoples can together enjoy a happy and plentiful life. For this reason, I still remember well that on the occasion of the 60th birth anniversary of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet, the great, I had the plan of going to Bangkok to bless his majesty the king myself. The situation at that time, though, was not favorable, and I could not go. However, I, together with high-ranking Lao officials, joined in blessing the king on the occasion in a ceremony held at the Thai Embassy in Vientiane.

Highly respected Your Royal Highness, distinguished guests: As you are well aware, Laos is a little country with a small population, and it has faced the danger of destructive warfare for a long time. With the earnest spirit of patriotism, the Lao people have always been determined to persistently carry out their struggle full of great sacrifices. The struggle proceeded until 1975 when the Lao people successfully regained their national independence. Since then, for only some 14 years, the Lao people have enjoyed the opportunity to build and develop their country. Therefore, during your visit to Laos on this occasion, Your Royal Highness can see that Laos is still in the period of healing the wounds of war and entering the initial stage of socioeconomic construction and development. It is, therefore, certain that the Lao people are still in underdeveloped conditions, but, I believe that Your Royal highness will see the appreciation of the Lao people for Your Royal Highness and Lao-Thai friendship, and see that the Lao people earnestly desire peace and prosperity in their future life. Additionally, I hope Your Royal Highness can see the

sincerity of the Lao people who have wanted to nurture and securely defend the Lao-Thai friendship by unwaveringly maintaining that their true brothers are Your Royal Highness and the entire Thai people.

I am convinced that this friendly visit to the LPDR by Your Royal Highness will greatly contribute to the establishment of mutual trust for the peoples of the two countries to together develop fraternal and good-neighborly relations, the goal of which the governments of the two countries of Laos and Thailand have now made joint efforts to achieve. The visit will also contribute to safeguarding peace and stability in this region and the world. On this occasion, on behalf of the government of the LPDR and the entire Lao people, I would like to wish Your Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon good health and protection from all obstacles and disasters. I also wish Your Royal Highness glorious success in this visit which is regarded as a great honor for the Lao nation and people on this occasion.

I now would like to invite Your Excellencies and distinguished guests attending this banquet to drink a toast to the happiness, good health, and long life of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet, the great, her majesty the queen, and Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, along with all the members of the royal family. I also wish all Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, both Thai and Lao, attending this banquet this evening good health and successes in performing all tasks. May the Lao-Thai friendship develop fruitfully and last forever! [applause]

Princess Speaks

BK1603134590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Speech given by Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, in Thai, at banquet hosted in her honor by Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit in Vientiane on 15 March—recorded]

[Text] Your Excellency Acting President of the Country: I am very pleased to have the opportunity to visit the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and to experience the hospitality willingly accorded to me by every group and individual. I wish to express many thanks to your excellency for this grand reception hosted in my honor this evening.

I am delighted and impressed by your excellency's speech on the relationship of fraternal neighborliness that has existed from time immemorial between our two countries, and by your excellency's sincerity and determination to further develop and strengthen these friendly relations. I would like to add that it is also the desire of the entire Thai population to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between the two peoples on the banks of the Mekong River in order to create mutual understanding and to jointly bring about prosperity and progress to our countries. In this regard, we believe that the racial, religious, linguistic, and cultural ties between the Lao and Thai peoples are the most important factors in boosting step by step the close mutual assistance and cooperation between the two countries in various undertakings. We believe that cooperation on the basis of sincerity and goodwill toward each other will enable our relationship to firmly flourish forever.

Once again, I would like to thank your excellency for your sincere welcoming statement and best wishes extended to me. I take this opportunity to invite all distinguished personalities here to drink a toast to the good health and success of your excellency acting president of the country, to the well-being of the Lao population, and to the close and lasting friendship between the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand. [applause]

Editorial Hails Visit

BK1503081990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Undated PASASON editorial: "Create Genuine Trust for the Benefit of Eternal Relations Between Laos and Thailand"]

[Text] In response to an invitation by Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Her Royal Highness Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand will pay an official friendship visit to the LPDR during which she will convey the intimate friendship of the Thai fraternal people to the Lao people. During her stay in Laos from 15 to 22 March, the princess will visit Vientiane capital and Luang Prabang, Champassak, Saravane, and Savannakhet Provinces. On this auspicious and historic occasion, the people in Vientiane capital and all parts of the country are elated and feel highly honored to have the opportunity to welcome the princess and her entourage. The people wish to express their salutation to the princess' efforts to overcome difficulties and obstacles to make the visit to LPDR one that will further strengthen the long-existing ties of brotherly affection.

Laos and Thailand are independent and sovereign countries and close neighbors, sharing over 1,700 kilometers of a common land, water, and mountainous border. The Lao and Thai people share similar languages, culture, traditions, and faith. They have maintained good relations since ancient times. This is why they regard this relationship as a tie of fraternal neighborliness and occasionally call it a relation of the same bloodline.

Nevertheless, the Lao-Thai relationship in the past was not always smooth. There were times of estrangement and times of harmony. Because of fraternal neighborliness and their same bloodline, the Lao and Thai peoples have worked together to solve every problem through peaceful means. The Lao and Thai peoples have come to realize that it is necessary to further strengthen and safeguard their friendly ties by developing brotherly affection. Based on this perception and the spirit and contents of the 1979 Lao-Thai joint communique and

joint communique of 25 May 1988 signed by the governments of the two countries, Lao-Thai relations have expanded and advanced to a new phase. The favorable enhancement of fraternal neighborliness—in the past few years, for example—conforms with the requirements of the new situation and the aspirations and interests of the Lao and Thai peoples. In light of this expansion of relations, cooperation, and mutual assistance of fraternal neighborliness, the Lao people always want to maintain and promote the tradition of this good relationship on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and cooperation in developing the economy and culture for their common interests so they can live in happiness and prosperity forever.

The Lao multiethnic people firmly believe that the princess' official friendship visit to the LPDR will greatly contribute to the creation of mutual trust between the two peoples to develop the relationship of fraternal neighborliness, which the Lao and Thai Governments are trying to achieve, and also to the defense of peace and stability in the region and the world. On this auspicious occasion, the Lao people in the entire country humbly wish Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon good health and brilliant success for the highly honorable visit to the Lao nation and people.

PRC Olympic Delegation Arrives for Visit

BK0303135690 Vientiane KPL in English 0942 GMT 3 Mar 90

[Text] Vientiane, March 3 (KPL)—A delegation of the Olympic Committee of the People's Republic of China led by its deputy secretary arrived here on the March 1 afternoon at the invitation of the Lao Olympic Committee.

The visiting Chinese delegation on the same afternoon paid a courtesy visit to Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, chairman of the Lao Olympic Committee.

The Lao and Chinese Olympic Committee delegations held here yesterday morning a meeting on the participation of a Lao sportsmen team in the SEA [Southeast Asian] games [as received] to be held in the PR [People's Republic] of China during September 22 to October 7.

The Chinese delegation yesterday afternoon also called on the minister of education and sports.

The Chinese Olympic delegation will return home on March 5.

Women's Union Delegation Returns From Cuba

BK1603102890 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Vientiane, March 16 (KPL)—A delegation of the Lao Women's Union [LWU] led by its vice president Mrs. Davon Vongsak returned here on March 13 from the Republic of Cuba after attending the congress of the National Women's Union of Cuba held in Havana on March 5-8.

The delegation was met at the airport by Mrs. Bounleua Lovansai, member of the Standing Committee of the LWU and other officials.

Mrs. Maria Ibanez Villa, first secretary of the Cuban Embassy in Laos, was also present at the airport.

Philippines

Militant Groups Warn Against Retention of Bases

HK1403140190 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 14 Mar 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] The League of Filipino Students and the 1 May Movement warned of a people's war against the United States if the Americans force the retention of the military bases here. In a rally held earlier today in front of the U.S. Embassy, the demonstrators claimed that the Americans will be disappointed because of the growing nationalism among Filipino youth. The demonstrators were allowed to stay on at Plaza Ferguson despite the absence of a permit.

Further on Student Protest Rally at Clark AFB

HK1603032590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 16 Mar 90 pp 1, 6

[By correspondent Chandler Ramas III, with reports from J. Fortuna and F. Gob]

[Text] Angeles City—Air Force men drove back with truncheons and water cannons hundreds of students from Manila who broke through barricades outside Clark Air Base on the culmination Thursday of their four-day march against the U.S. military facilities.

Student leaders from the staterun University of the Philippines [UP] claimed that more than 50 of the marchers were injured in the dispersal. But the GLOBE could confirm only eight injured, all of them seriously, and who have been brought to nearby hospitals for immediate treatment. Police and witnesses said at least seven soldiers were also injured when the demonstrators fought back with rocks and pop bottles. The identities of the injured were not immediately available.

About 200 of the marchers proceeded to Mendiola Bridge in Manila, and held a rally for about 20 minutes, police said.

Also on Thursday:

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said the U.S. and Philippine panels have agreed that the forthcoming exploratory talks on the U.S. bases will be informal.

low-key and low-level. The substantive negotiations, if ever to be held, will be "formal and full-panel", he said.

President Aquino appointed Roberto Flores, president of the Federation of Filipino Civilian Employees Associations, as workers' representative to the Joint Executive-Legislative Bases Council.

Violence began when the 800 students from UP-Diliman (Quezon City), joined by hundreds more from UP-San Fernando (Pampanga) and other schools near Clark Air Base, insisted on posting a 4-by-8-foot plywood notice on the base gate demanding the dismantling of all US bases in the Philippines.

Amante Jimenez, UP Student Council chairman, argued heatedly with Air Force officers and demanded that the marchers be allowed through. About 100 riot troopers blocked them half a kilometer from the gate.

During the face-to-face confrontation and shoving between soldiers and students, one student slipped and was beaten up, triggering the stone-throwing. About 50 students broke from the main group and charged towards the base gate, but soldiers chased them with truncheons and fired water cannons at the main group.

Col. Diosdado Pili, spokesman of the Filipino base command, said that PAF authorities, citing possible security threats, refused Jimenez's request to allow 10 students to post the "eviction notice".

Ferdinand Calma, chairman of the League of Filipino Students-Central Luzon chapter, said the UP students, who brought along first-aid kits, got out their wounded from hospitals and took buses to Manila.

Ferdie Cruz, a student from UP-San Fernando, was reported missing.

Soldiers earlier arrested four members of an urban-poor orgaisation supporting the students, who reportedly carried away a barricade. Peter Aquino, 20, Danilo Candoy, 35, Renato Cejo, 39, and Lina de la Cruz, all of the Pagkakaisa ng Maralita Laban sa Demolisyon, were released later but claimed they were mauled by PC [Philippine Constabulary] troopers.

The students began their 92-kilometer march to Angeles on Monday after a torch parade around the UP campus.

In Manila, Manglapus said he foresees the exploratory talks "will be informal because they do not partake of the nature of a formal negotiation for a treaty." He said that being informal, the exploratory talks will not have a fixed agenda, and "there will be no flags on both sides," recalling the practice during the 1988 formal talks.

He said that although the talks will be informal, the Philippine panel, which he will head, will bring up the matter of $96 million in unpaid obligation for the United States' use of the bases in 1990.

Meanwhile, Flores will sit in the Bases Council as replacement for Delfin Lazaro of Benquet Corp., who has resigned as private sector representative.

1989 Trade Surplus With U.S. Reported

HK1503044190 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 15 Mar 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by Purification D. Delfinado: "RP [Republic of the Philippines] Trade Surplus With U.S. Reached $807M Last Year"]

[Text] The country's balance of trade surplus with the United States reached $807 million at the close of last year, the largest it has ever attained within a span of four years since 1986, according to latest data from the foreign trade division of the National Statistics Office (NSO).

The surplus came as Philippine export revenues from the U.S. at $2.8 billion as of the end of 1989, overtook the former's import payments to the latter, which amounted to only $1.98 billion.

Last year's surplus was also 12.5

greater than the 1988 level of $717 million.

Per the NSO data, such a notable expansion was due to the faster growth of Philippine exports to the U.S. compared to local imports from that country. Both exports to and imports from the U.S. grew, but the former's rate of growth of 16

was brisker by .2 percentage points than the latter's 15.8

.

Actually, the Philippines has been enjoying a favorable trade position with the U.S. since 1986. That year, the country raked in export earnings from the U.S. amounting to $1.652 billion. This grew to $1.976 billion in 1987, $2.432 billion in 1988 and $2.786 billion in 1989.

Philippine imports from the U.S. have also been growing since 1986 but to lesser levels than exports. From $1.2 billion in 1986, local imports climbed to only $1.4 billion in 1987, $1.7 billion in 1988 and per advance estimates, to $1.9 billion in 1989. Naturally, the country's trade surplus with the US has also been ballooning since 1986 when it stood at $398 million in 1986. This grew to $717.4 million in 1988 and to $807.3 million in 1989.

Ths U.S. remains the country's largest trading partner. Last year, the U.S. absorbed 35

of Philippine exports to the entire world last year even as it supplied 18.9

of domestic import needs. The country's favorable trading relationship with the U.S. is likely to improve further given the still strengthening performance of the

leading Filipino export items, including textile, semiconductors and handicrafts, in the market there.

Meanwhile, the NSO said that for the whole year of 1989, the country's total exports grew 10.6

to $7.821 billion from $7.074 billion in 1988. Aggregate imports, on the other hand, expanded by $2.260 billion or 27.7

, from $8.159 million in 1988 to $10.419 billion in 1989.

Weather Research Agreement With Soviets Signed

HK1503044390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Mar 90 p 6

[By Bernadette Tio]

[Text] Weather forcasting by the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pag-asa) may soon be improved following the signing of an agreement with the Soviet Union to undertake a joint research on typhoons, cloud seeding and tropical meteorology in the country.

Pag-asa Director Roman Kintanar said the research is intended primarily "to improve the ability to forecast erratic movement of typhoons". Erratic movement of typhoons is the shift of typhoon to different direction other than what was predicted, according to Pagasa. Kintanar said the erratic movement of typhoon cannot be explained scientifically. That is the reason why Pagasa's forecasts sometimes go wrong, he said.

The research to be conducted by both the Philippines and Soviet scientists, will also involve different methods of reseeding clouds. The Soviet Union will provide all the equipments needed for the experiment this year, with the results expected to be finished after two to three years. "This is the pilot project with the Soviet Union. If this will be successful, we can explore other areas of cooperation," said Russian Ambassador to the Philippines Oleg Sokolov.

The country experiences an average of 19 typhoons yearly. Oftentimes, Pagasa had failed to make accurate reports on the magnitude of weather disturbances.

Canadian Extradition Treaty To Be Retroactive

HK1403134990 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 14 Mar 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] An extradition treaty between the Philippines and Canada will be retroactive. This was explained by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, who added that the treaty will cover Philippine businessman Dewey Dee who absconded with millions of pesos during the Marcos era and murder suspect Rodolfo Pacificador.

According to Manglapus, the documents related to this treaty will be forwarded to the president and then submitted to the Senate for ratification.

'Suspected' Marcos Gold Bars Found in Munich

HK1503080490 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Mar 90 p 1

[By Julie Javellana]

[Text] A hoard of Philippine gold bars estimated to be worth billions of dollars has turned up in a bank in West Germany, possibly spirited away by the dictator Ferdinand Marcos and his cronies.

Commissioner David Castro of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), the office created by President Aquino to investigate causes of illgotten wealth in Marcos regime, said the gold bars, bearing Philippine mint marks, were deposted with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank in Munich under the name of Greenless, Tucker and Santos.

Castro said the exact size of the hoard had not yet been determined but speculated it could be worth "billions of dollars."

He recalled PCGG reports showing that in 1973, the Marcoses "diverted to their personal use 800,000 troy ounces of gold from the gold reserves of the Philippine Central Bank." At current market prices, 800,000 troy ounces of gold would be worth more than $317 million.

One of the racketeering charges Marcos' widow, Imelda, now faces in California, USA is gold smuggling.

Under Philippine law, nobody can trade in gold except the Central Bank.

Castro said he was not familiar with any of the three names under which the gold account was kept, although PCGG sources remembered a Greenless who was a British national who had lived in the Philippines.

A PCGG informant had found the gold and reported his discovery to Munger, Tolles and Olsen, a law firm in Los Angeles representing the PCGG. The gold was being put up for sale by the bank, although no prospective buyers have yet stepped forward.

Castro said the PCGG was asking the Philippine embassy in Bonn, the West German capital, to verify the report. "We don't like to involve the Central Bank until the embassy has made a report to us," he said.

As soon as it has been ascertained that the gold was acquired in an illegitimate transaction, the PCGG will step in to stop the sale and the sellers will be criminally prosecuted, Castro said.

In his book "The Marcos Dynasty", Sterling Seagrave quoted "a former Philippine diplomat" as saying "Ferdinand's personal plane often ferried gold bullion to a Zurich bank."

Twelve shipments of gold, his source said, went by commercial airlines KLM, PAL, Air France and Sabena On Sept. 16, 1983, KLM supposedly flew seven tons of gold bullion to Zurich and another airline shipped 3,000 kilos to London.

Seagrave said the former dictator was supposed to have recovered $14-billion worth of gold buried in the Philippines by the World War II Japanese general Tomoyuki Yamashita, and traced for him by Olof Jonsson in 1975.

Reportage on Confirmation of Aquino Appointments

Commission Confirms Three Officials

HK1403134190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] Three officials appointed by the president were today confirmed by the Commission of Appointments, namely: Transportation Secretary Oscar Orbos, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, and former Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez as permanent representative to the United Nations. However, the appointment of Agrarian Reform Secretary Florencio Abad has not yet been confirmed.

Jojo Ismael for the details.

[Begin recording] The Commission on Appointments today confirmed the appointments of Transportation Secretary Oscar Orbos and Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon as well as the assignment of former Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez as the permanent representative to the United Nations.

However, the confirmation of Agrarian Reform Secretary Florencio Abad was again deferred for the fifth time after Negros Oriental Representative Miguel Romero raised Section 20 of the commission's rules to contest his appointment. Romero told the commission that his opposition conforms with the decision by the Struggle of Philippine Democrats at a caucus yesterday where the party requested another deferment on Abad's confirmation. He explained that his invoking Section 20 was not a political act, but rather one concerned with the policy issue. [end recording]

Aquino To Intercede

HK1503095590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Mar 90

[By Dick Sinchiongco]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today said she will intercede and would personally convince the Commission on Appointments [CA] to confirm the nomination of Agrarian Reform Secretary Florencio Abad. In a press statement, the president admitted that she will use all her persuasive powers as president in order to speed up the confirmation of Abad.

Meanwhile, Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna expressed the belief that Abad's nomination will be confirmed next week.

The president stressed that the agrarian reform remains the centerpiece or the major program of her administration and that any delay in Abad's confirmation would greatly affect the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law. Azcuna said that the president will get in touch with the CA next week before its session ends to support Abad's confirmation. It is recalled that the commission had, for five times, postponed its confirmation on the former Batanes congressman's nomination. Abad's confirmation was delayed because of controversy over land in Dasmarinas, Cavite that was declared as an industrial estate by President Aquino. Caught in the middle of this, Abad stressed it is his department who has the authority to issue a decision on land conversions.

Official on Abad's Confirmation

HK1503095790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Mar 90

[by Cesar Chavez]

[Text] Senator Aquilino 'Nene' Pimentel Jr. has hinted that the Commission of Appointments will finally confirm the nomination of Agrarian Reform Secretary-designate Florencio 'Butch' Abad next week. According to Pimentel, chairman of the Committee on Agrarian Reform of the Commission on Appointments, Abad will no longer face stumbling blocks for his confirmation because [name indistinct] had revealed the reasons behind the opposition to Abad's nomination, which involved former members of the New Society Movement who are being used by landlords and are with the Struggle of Philippine Democrats:

[Begin Pimentel recording in English—in progress] ...time that Abad will be confirmed. So, there is no need to, you know, feel frustrated and discouraged. That could be confirmed in, maybe one week before the adjournment, which is April 6. [end recording]

Aquino Orders Creation of Land Conversion Group

HK1603023590 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] President Aquino ordered yesterday the creation of an inter-agency technical committee to draw up guidelines on land conversion by March 23 to prevent future controversies. The [word indistinct] the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program. Mrs. Aquino issued the order at a meeting at the executive committee of the Presidential Agrarian Reform Council which she heads. At the same time, the chief executive stood behind agrarian reform secretary designate Florencio Abad saying she will use all her persuasive powers to expedite his confirmation by the Commission on Appointments.

Aquino Sends Tax Reform Package to Congress

HK1403113890 Manila MANILA BULLEIN in English 11 Mar 90 p 25

[By Ernesto Tolentino]

[Text] Malacanang sends to Congress this year a tax reform package for raising P [Peso] 186.2 billion in public revenues. The new set of revenue measures was approved by President Aquino in a recent meeting with the Cabinet. It is expected primarily to trim down the P17.5-billion projected fiscal deficit.

Also approved was an incentives program for the tax collection agencies, particularly the Bureaus of Internal Revenue and Customs.

The Executive department also decided to speed up the privatization of the so-called "big ticket items" or large government-owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs) such as the Manila Hotel, Philippine Airlines, National Steel Corp and others.

The tax reform package will further simplify the operations of the internal revenue and customs bureaus as well as "trade off structurally unsound taxes," Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao said.

Under this program, the government will work for the gradual elimination of the five percent gross receipts tax (GRT) imposed on banks, and at the same time urge the Congress to passed upon pending measures increasing the taxes on tobacco, liquor and other alcoholic product, otherwise known as "sin products." [sentence as published]

In addition, the executive department decided to work for the passage of legislation on other revenue measures designed to, among others, impose ceilings on business deduction, increase forest charges and raise the rate of dividends declared by government-owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs) in favor of the national government.

Estanislao said that with the revenue measures, the government hopes to generate revenues to the scale-up level of P186.2 billion.

Realization of this revenue target would help peg the fiscal deficit at the original projected level of P13.8 billion. Earlier estimates indicated that the actual deficit could swell to P17.5 billion if the revenue target were not adjusted upward.

Expenditures will be kept at P200 billion, or P205.1 billion including the support to the Central Bank, Estanislao said.

Laurel Comments on Enrile, His Own Candidacy

HK1503044890 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 15 Mar 90 pp 1, 9

[By correspondent Mar-Vic Cagurangan]

[Text] Vice President Salvador Laurel, who has spent most of his political career shaping up for the Presidency, said yesterday that there was nothing wrong with Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile's announcing his plans to run for president in 1992. Laurel said he would make his own move "when the right time comes."

Enrile had said that he would run for president if drafted by the opposition. He is a member of the Nacionalista Party (NP), which is headed by Laurel.

Laurel, who set aside his ambitions for Mrs Corazon Aquino in the 1986 snap elections, said Enrile was merely making an "expression of availability" when he announced his presidential bid on Tuesday.

Asked if he was ready to declare himself a candidate, Laurel said, "at this moment, I'd rather not express my availability."

Laurel said there was "nothing bad and illegal" about Enrile's move but hinted all is not lost for him yet.

He said it would be the NP leaders who will recommend and nominate the party's presidential candidate through an electoral convention.

Laurel, who joined forces with Enrile last year after formally breaking up with President Aquino, said the NP cannot hold an electoral convention at this time because it has to wait for the date set by the law for that. He said that under the Election Code, the political parties electoral convention shall be held 120 days before election day.

Aside from Enrile, another public figure who has announced her presidential candidacy is former Agrarian Reform Secretary Miriam Defensor-Santiago. Recent public surveys show Santiago as the most popular among a list of figures known to have presidential ambitions.

Meanwhile, lawyers of Enrile assailed Malacanang for coming out with an opinion survey that showed majority of the people approved of the filing of charges against the senator and his subsequent arrest. In a statement, lawyers Rene Cayetano and Sabino Acut Jr. said Malacanang's "self-serving poll" undermines the administration of the justice system, particularly Enrile's case. The survey, they said, showed Malacanang's "shameless lack of respect for a co-equal branch of government." "The question of guilt or innocence, the validity of arrest and the degree of punishment are matters that are determined by the courts after hearing and trial. They are not and should not be subject of a popularity contest," the lawyers said.

Tighter Control of Firearms Expected

HK1403135990 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 14 Mar 90

[Text] The military is expected to implement stricter regulations governing the issuing of firearms following

the incident in Cagayan where the suspended Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo, supported by his armed followers, remains at large. This was announced by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos at a news conference today. Ramos described the measure as a normal step under the current emergency political and security conditions confronting the country, specifically the armed uprising carried out by some elements of society like Aguinaldo.

Meanwhile, Ramos stressed that the concept of community defense as typified by the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units [CAFGU] remains in force, even though the 9th and 10th CAFGU companies in Gattaran, Cagayan, joined the ranks of suspended Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo.

Ramos Orders Tight Security at Airports, Ports

HK1603032390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 16 Mar 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos has ordered tight security on all airports and ports nationwide to prevent the entry of illegal firearms. He also issued the directive to avoid highjacking incidents. This new measure is one of the moves by the National Committee on Antihijacking, of which Secretary Ramos is the chairman.

Brigadier General Rogelio Estacio, Philippine Air Force Security Command chief, assured the immediate implementation of this recent directive.

Laoag International Airport Reopens

HK1503133590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Top government and congressional officials witnessed the reopening today of the Laoag Airport to domestic and international flights. In his message, Ilocos Norte Governor Rodolfo Farinas expressed thanks for the government's decision to reopen the airport. According to Farinas, the move will greatly contribute to the economy of Ilocos Norte, assuring that this will never be used by forces whose only objective is to overthrow the government. Present at the simple reopening ceremony were Transportation Secretary Oscar Orbos, Senators Ernesto Maceda and Aquilino Pimentel, and Congressman Roque Ablan. Three initial domestic flights will touch down at Laoag Airport on Sunday [18 March].

Paper Carries Honasan's 'Fourth Open Letter'

HK1503043590 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Mar 90 pp 1, 2

[By news editor Julian V. Cruz]

[Text] Former Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan, in a statement sent to NEWSDAY yesterday, accused the administration of engaging "in a sinister plot to slowly dismantle the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] and supplant it with the Yellow Army."

Speaking for the military underground, the elusive former military officer, who carries a P5-million prize on his head, said the "senseless killing" of brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo, AFP Civil Relations Service chief who was killed in the government's effort to arrest fugitive Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo, was one consequence of this alleged plot. Honasan charged that the administration plans to declare martial law before the 1992 presidential elections to ensure victory for its candidates with the help of NAMFREL [National Citizens Movement for Free Elections]. He said the reported irregularities in the recent elections in Muslim Mindanao were a "dry run."

The statement titled "FOURTH OPEN LETTER" and addressed to "My Beloved Countrymen," also said that the "senseless killing" of brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo in Cagayan during the aborted operation to arrest Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo was part of the Anti-AFP plot of the administration because of its "deep-seated, if guarded, ill-will and bitterness" against the officers and men of the AFP.

Honasan also said that the strength of President Aquino is not in her popularity but in the weakness of the Opposition and he urged the people to "unite and go into action."

"Otherwise," he said, "Mrs. Aquino will just gloat over our sound and fury and remain insensitive to our common cry for justice, peace, freedom and democracy."

Honasan's letter follows in full:

"FOURTH OPEN LETTER

"My Beloved Countrymen:

"The senseless killing of the late Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo was another consequence of a sinister plot to slowly dismantle the Armed Forces of the Philippines and supplant it with the Yellow Army; and thereafter, declare martial law in or before 1992 to insure the victory of the ruling party's candidate for president with the help of the NAMFREL. The Mindanao gubernatorial election characterized by massive cheating and deceptive trending was a dry run.

"Immediately after the assumption to the Presidency thru the greatest political swindle in political history, Mrs. Corazon Aquino, Phil. puppet President, issued a policy statement, thus: The AFP is the apparatus of the Marcos dictatorship and guilty of conspiracy in the assassination of Ninoy. Hence, she organized the Yellow Army which is now incorporated in the AFP and headed by retired general Renato de Villa.

"Since then, everytime there is a parade or out-of-town inspection of Mrs. Aquino, the firing pins and magazines of our soldiers' firearms are removed. Our soldiers in the battlefields are ill-treated and ill-fed.

"All these prove the deep-seated, if guarded, ill-will and bitterness of Mrs. Aquino against the officers and men of the AFP; hence, everytime there is military protest action, Mrs. Aquino and her ally retired general De Villa swiftly and ruthlessly order surrender or die or shoot to kill without exhausting peaceful negotiations unlike in the case of NPA [New People's Army] and MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] rebels. For instance, the Cawa Cawa, White Plains and Tuguegarao incidents.

"Likewise, detained military officers and men are herded in sub-human solitary confinements while NPAs are confined in airconditioned quarters. The wounded are neglected while NPA leaders are personally taken care of by Mrs. Aquino like Commander Dante before.

"Malacanang is the mastermind of black propaganda and character assassination against military officers and men who risked their lives and limbs as well as career and family for good government.

"The truth is that the trajectory of the bullet that felled Gen. Florendo, re-enactment and accounts of eye-witnesses show that the fatal shot came from a yellow assassin in the company of Sec. Luis Santos on the second floor of the Delfino Hotel; hence, Mrs. Aquino readily blamed Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo to intensify division and demoralization in the AFP preparatory to its abolition in or before 1992.

"The foregoing show the dark and dirty scheme to dismantle the AFP and supplant it with the Yellow Army preparatory to declaration of martial law before or during the presidential elections of 1992.

"The people's answer to the sinister plot is peaceful, constitutional and democratic rescue of the Republic from this region of hatred, greed, lust and terror. This simply means peaceful withdrawal of support, or breakaway from a vindictive, corrupt and incompetent leadership in the near future to preempt the death of democracy in this nation. The soldiers of the people are set to declare a peaceful breakaway wherein no one will be shot. The movement will be joined by millions of enraged citizenry—enraged by the false promises and ruthlessness of the Greatest Political Swindler.

"The strength of Mrs. Aquino lies not in popular support but in the weakness of the Opposition. Let us, therefore, unite and go into action; otherwise, Mrs. Aquino will simply gloat over our sound and fury and remain insensitive to our common cry for justice, peace, freedom and democracy.

"Fraternally yours,

[Signed] "Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan

"For the Movement, 3.11.90."

Military Captures Suspected Dec Coup Plotter

HK1503050090 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] One of the suspected December coup plotters has fallen into the military dragnet. Colonel Alfredo Filler, Constabulary chief of staff, said that former Major Wilhelm Doromal was arrested in a house in Tukong Manga between Novaliches and San Jose, Del Monte at 0700 today. Doromal is known to be an explosives expert and was involved in the bombing of the Philippine Military Academy in Fort Del Pilar. He was, however, pardoned. He is also suspected to have participated in the takeover of Philippine Television 4 during the failed December coup. The amount of 500,000 pesos was offered for his capture.

Doromal was arrested by the joint forces of the Constabulary, the Constabulary Highway Patrol Group, and the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces. Recovered from him were some weapons and grenades. He is now confined in Camp Crame and is undergoing interrogation.

Aquino Pleased With Capture

HK1503091390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Mar 90

[By Dick Sinchiongco]

[Text] President Aquino was pleased over Major Wilhelm Doromal's capture. She said this is a step towards normalization. Many more major leaders of the recent coup attempts are expected to fall into the hands of government operatives. Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos made this statement after the capture of Doromal, who was a suspect in the Philippine Academy bombing incident in March 1987. Malacanang newsmen interviewed Ramos after he reported to the president.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] I think there are more than just one in that area. Maybe two, three. I don't know. I think your guess is just as good as mine. But we are hopeful that more will come out of these operations. [end recording]

At the same time, Ramos said the military is continuing with its operations to capture leading personalities of the Reform of the Armed Forces Movement.

Further on YOU's Statement on Ramos, De Villa

HK1603083390 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 16 Mar 90 p 6

[Text] After a long silence, the Young Officers Union [YOU] demanded yesterday the resignation of Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos and Armed Forces chief Gen Renato S. De Villa, saying that their "inefficiency" has become a major cause of divisiveness within the military.

YOU, in its first official statement sent to media, branded Ramos and De Villa as "weaklings and misfits." Their "inefficiency," YOU charged, has "greatly contributed to the continuing demoralization and divisiveness that plague the AFP-INP." [Armed Forces of the Philippines-Integrated National Police]

"We once pinned our hopes on them for our long sought reforms, but their initial display of idealism and professionalism proved to be mere camouflage to conceal their greed for power," Capt Carlos Maglalang of the First Scout Ranger Regiment, YOU spokesman, said.

YOU was formed on Aug 8, 1988 by a group of young officers who shared with the Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] the vision of a reformed military. It has since been branded as a "younger version" of the RAM.

No Threat

De Villa has dismissed YOU as a "motley" group that posed no threat to the Armed Forces.

Maglalang said that at least six coup attempts had been launched since Ramos and De Villa came to power in the military and defense establishments. "Had the military leadership been responsible and credible, there would never been military rebellions. No soldier would dare revolt if the military and civilian leadership is doing their job right," the statement said.

YOU insisted that like before, the issues of low pay, "distorted promotions system," and graft and corruption remained pervasive.

"Of course, the military high command can always deny these, but we think that the December uprising went right through their denials," Maglalang added.

Blunders

YOU argued that Ramos and De Villa should resign owing to the "blunders" they had committed. For instance, the two sought U.S. assistance during the failed mutiny, a "glaring proof of how alienated" both were "from the Filipino soldiers and citizens," Maglalang said.

Rebels Said Recruiting for New Coup Attempt

HK1603032190 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 16 Mar 90 p 12

[Text] A Philippine Constabulary officer yesterday told the Davide Commission that based on their intelligence reports, there is an ongoing recruitment by rebels for another coup, which will have a different approach than the failed December putsch.

Col. Brigido Undan, 182nd Philippine Constabulary company commander based in San Jose, Nueva Ecija, said the same report indicated that plans for the new coup try includes a shift from a Metro Manila start to simultaneous military uprisings in the provinces. In the province of Nueva Ecija, he added, the first target is his company for their role in stopping a battalion of Scout Rangers from proceeding to Manila.

Col. Undan's superior, Nueva Ecija provincial commander Col. Ferdinand Lagman, corroborated his statements. The latter explained that another coup is possible in the near future since many of the December coup participants are still at large. In addition, he said many battalion commanders holding middle level assignments are former Presidential Security Command personnel still loyal to their former head, Gen. Fabian Ver.

These officials, Col. Lagman said, have developed a "kind of loyalty through the years" that will make it very hard for them to refuse if approached by Gen. Ver, his son Col. Irwin Ver, or renegade Gen. Jose Ma. Zumel, to participate in another uprising against the Government.

Both colonels, in separate hearings, gave details about the battalion of Rangers from Isabela, who were stopped at a "chokepoint" in Bgy. Kitakita, San Jose. The contingent was made up of some 1,000 men in full battle gear and had with them two armored personnel carriers, four six by six trucks, five passenger air-conditioned buses (three Pantranco and two Inland) and five Kennedy-type jeepneys.

Col. Lagman said the group was earlier stopped by a Northern Luzon Command checkpoint near Camp Aquino in Tarlac, but claimed they were bound for Manila to attend graduation rites.

He also disputed the statements of Lt. Col. Levy Zamora, 56th Infantry Battalion [IB] commander, who told the investigating panel he did not lead a rebel group from Pampanga. The Nueva Ecija commanding officer positively identified Col. Zamora as the officer whom he escorted back to Cabanatuan and arrested the following day on the orders of Recom [Regional Command] 3 chief Gen. Cesar Nazareno.

Col. Lagman said the detained 56th IB head even then said the coup was "a revolt of the whole Philippine Army," but later changed his alibi and said he was moving to Manila allegedly on the orders of PSG [Presidential Security Group] commander Col. Voltaire Gazmin. He described Col. Zamora as "very much confused" and "occasionally breaks into emotional outbursts."

He also told the fact-finding body that fugitive Cagayan Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo was spotted with his brigade, along with the 6th Scout Rangers Brigade and the 17th IB, moving towards the National Capital Region at the height of the coup. Mr. Aguinaldo's sighting was reported to him by Msgt. Severino Maglaque, team leader of the 309th Constabulary Highway Patrol Group unit based in San Jose.

Investigation Continues Into General's Killing

HK1403103890 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 11 Mar 90 pp 1, 10

[By Fe Zamora]

[Excerpts] The Criminal Investigation Service (CIS) yesterday asked Local Government Secretary Luis Santos, Col. Emiliano Templo and other military personnel who fought rebellious soldiers at the lobby of the Hotel Delfino last Sunday to submit their firearms for ballistic examination.

The test could possibly help investigators identify the gunman who fired the shot that killed Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo, chief of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Civil Relations Service.

Gen. Renato S. De Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, also ordered all military personnel and civilians who were at the hotel to give their accounts of the siege to help the military complete its investigation. [passage omitted]

An autopsy performed on Florendo indicated that he was shot by someone standing above him. His body was recovered at the lobby where he had been held hostage by Aguinaldo and his armed followers.

CIS investigators found on the hotel lobby many bullet marks from guns fired from the stairway leading to the second floor.

The investigators have initially established that Colonel Templo, AFP deputy chief of staff for civil military operations, who was among those trapped on the second floor, fired the first shot that triggered the fighting. [passage omitted]

De Villa Names Replacement for General Florendo

HK1603095190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Mar 90

[By Vic Pambuan]

[Excerpt] General Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, today appointed Navy Captain Johnny Andaya, the deputy and brother-in-law of slain Brigadier General Oscar Florendo, as the acting-chief of the Civil Relations Service [CRS]. De Villa named Andaya to take over the position left by Florendo, who was killed on 4 March in the lobby of Hotel Delfino in Tuguegarao, Cagayan during an uprising against the government by troops led by former Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo. The new CRS chief belonged to PMA [Philippine Military Academy] Class of 1963 and finished several naval training courses in the Philippines and abroad. He was made CRS chief of staff in December of 1988 and became deputy when his brother-in-law served as the CRS chief. According to De Villa, he appointed Andaya as the CRS chief to ensure a continuous enforcement of services. [passage omitted]

De Villa Orders Hunt for Rebel Colonel Noble

HK1603115590 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 16 Mar 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] General Renato de Villa, the Armed Forces of the Philippines' chief of staff, today ordered an extensive and thorough search for renegade Army Colonel Alexander Noble who is hiding in the mountains of Agusan del Norte. De Villa instructed the military command in Mindanao to capture Noble as soon as possible and by all means. Noble, a former PSG [Presidential Security Group] chief of staff, was one of the leaders of the failed December coup tasked to take control of Malacanang. Noble is presently leading a group of Higaonon tribesmen together with some former military men. A 500-million-peso reward has been offered for his arrest.

Military Reveals Rebel Soldiers' Newspaper Codes

HK1503040990 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Mar 90 p 3

[Text] The rebels used a code in signaling their fellow renegades of the start of the December coup d'etat through an advertisement in the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER published November 26, 1989.

This was revealed by Brig. Gen. Federico Ruiz, commanding general of the 8th Infantry Division based in Camp Lukban, Catbalogan, Samar, who said the rebels were supposed to have used two alert codes for broadcast. The codes read "The rose that lately bloom (sic) in late November will surely warm cold hearts by December," and "Dear Pare [a vocative word used in addressing a man whose name is unknown to the speaker], Comadre Rose will give birth anytime after November 29, 1989. Please contact other maninoys [godparents] for the grand binyag [christening]." But Ruiz said these were not used and instead another code was placed in an ad on page 11 of the November 26 issue of the INQUIRER, which read, "One of our 7,107 islands will be our gift to the world. It will be the island of valor, peace and international understanding."

Campaign Against Rebels Intensified in Manila

HK1403113690 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Mar 90 p 8

[By Robert Requintina and Shirley Matias]

[Text] Brig. Gen. Alexander P. Aguirre, PC [Philippine Constabulary] Capital Regional Command (Capcom) chief and Metropolitan Police Force (MPF) director, ordered the police and military units in the metropolis yesterday to intensify their campaign on criminality and suspected rebel safehouses.

Aguirre, at the same time, ordered his men to conduct special operations to oust the infiltrators of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA).

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, meanwhile, directed the Makati police chief to implement the strictest security measure inside and out of the Makati municipal hall following a death threat received from suspected members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB) of the New People's Army (NPA).

Binay issued the directive to Maj. Remy Macaspac "to ensure the safety of our local government employes, specifically the officials and staff of the local Commission on Audit (COA)."

Earlier, chairman Eufemio Domingo requested for police protection to ensure the safety of their auditor, Dalisay Andreneda, who received a death threat yesterday.

Aguirre said that the four police districts in Metro Manila have organized tactical contingency forces to fight the NPA rebels.

Detainees Granted Private Medical Checks

HK1403114890 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 14 Mar 90 p 26

[Text] Constabulary chief Maj Gen Ramon Montano has granted military rebel detainees visitation rights from physicians of their own choice.

Montano granted the rebels, who are detained in connection with the failed December coup attempt, visits from private doctors aside from the regular PC/INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] medical staff for humanitarian reasons. CHR [Commission on Human Rights] chairman Mary Concepcion Bautista had earlier asked Montano to allow non-military doctors to treat the detainees. Last month, rebel navy Capt Fermin Cuizon died at the Crame Hospital from cardiac arrest that followed an asthma attack.

Montano also provided for the construction of another room inside the stockade to be used as a clinic for a government doctor. At the same time, he said, any private physician called by the detainee will also be allowed access to the stockade.

Jail warden Lt Col Resurreccion Miravite, meanwhile, said "certain measures are underway to improve the facilities and condition at the stockade," he said they are taking particular attention to the "medical and dental needs of the detainees."

Some 35 military personnel led by Brig Gen Jose Comendador, former chief of the 2nd Air Division in Cebu, and Lt Col Romylino Gojo, commander of the Marines who seized Villamor air base and later assaulted Camp Aguinaldo, are detained at the Crame stockade since December last year.

They are under investigation for leading the sixth and most serious attempt to oust President Aquino. The failed putsch killed 113 and wounded nearly 600.

Military Reveals Failed Palawan Mutiny 25 Feb

HK1503043990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Mar 90 p 11

[By Fe B. Zamora]

[Text] An undetermined number of soldiers in Palawan staged a mutiny on Feb. 25, the 4th anniversary of the people's power revolt, but failed due to lack of support, a belated military report said.

The report, which reached Camp Aguinaldo yesterday, said the failed mutiny was led by a M/Sgt. Felix Magnifico, the sergeant major of the Western Command [Wescom] based in Puerto Princesa, Palawan.

The failed mutiny was timed with the people's power anniversary rites at EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] led by President Aquino. The AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] was on red alert at that time to preempt violence coming from communist and military insurgents.

The report did not state the reasons for the uprising. It said the mutineers, backed by Navy Capt. Constancio Velasco Jr., Wescom chief of staff, were stopped by Col. Arsenio Aguda of the Philippine Army.

The mutineers tried to solicit popular support by urging Wescom personnel to go on mass 60 days furlough. But the call for mass leave was ignored, the report said.

Velasco, Magnifico and Ledr. Aurelio Agudelo, Wescom intelligence chief, were stripped of their duties effective March 1 as a result of the failed mutiny.

Soldiers at the Wescom have been restive since last year when their commanding general, Brig. Gen. Napoleon, was named by a senator for having engaged in illegal logging.

Rejection of Cease-Fire Proposal Assailed

HK1503114190 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 15 Mar 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] Senator Wigberto Tanada expressed disappointment and shock over President Aquino's rejection of the National Democratic Front's proposal for a ceasefire. According to Tanada, the president should have studied the matter more carefully before rejecting it:

[Begin Tanada recording in English] I believe that whatever step must be taken that will advance the peace process, we should be willing to take. [end recording]

Government Clashes With MNLF, NPA; 15 Dead

HK1403104090 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 11 Mar 90 p 9

[By Ali Macabalang]

[Text] Cotabato City—Fourteen Muslim and communist guerillas and a five-year-old girl were killed in two separate gunbattles with government forces Thursday in Maguindanao and Davao del Sur, military and civilian officials said yesterday.

Maj. Reynaldo Tolentino, spokesman of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said the Maguindanao encounter took place in barangay Kapinpilan, Ampatuan between 15 Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] guerillas and militiamen backed by Army troopers. Tolentino said the rebels had strafed houses in a nearby barangay when government forces caught up with them. He said nine rebels and two militiamen were killed in the two-hour firefight.

Seven assorted firearms including Garand and Armalite rifles, a grenade launcher, and hand held radio set were recovered from the slain rebels, said Col Glicerio Sua, 38th Infantry Battalion [IB] chief.

In Davao del Sur, five alleged New People's Army [NPA] rebels were killed after Scout Rangers surprised them inside a house in Little Panay, Panabo. The five-year-old daughter of the houseowner, Liezl Leonor, was also killed, apparently caught in the crossfire, a Davao City tabloid reported. Col. Agustin Ariola, 75th Army Battalion chief, said about 15 NPAs in the Leonor house were surprised by a Scout Ranger patrol. He said three M-16 Armalite Rifles, two hand guns, two rifle grenade launchers were recovered from the house. Liezl's mother, Eliza, and her brother, Leonil, 3, were wounded.

Meanwhile, four Army soldiers were detained Friday by police in Makilala, North Cotabato after witnesses pointed to them as having shot and killed a businesswoman and wounded three others. The soldiers were allegedly drunk when they fired at a passing jeepney Thursday afternoon, killing Leonora Marasigan and wounding Dr. Ronaldo Marasigan and two others. The Catholic-run DXND radio station identified the soldiers as Pfc. Cesar Makapobre and three others whose surnames were Villoni, Almazan and Tadtad, all of the 27th Infantry Battalion. Officials of the 27th IB turned over the soldiers to the police upon intercession of the local Constabulary authorities. Some Makilala residents said the soldiers have been pointing their guns at passersby before the shooting.

Communist Rebels Take 13 Hostages in Davao

HK1403114290 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Mar 90 p 8

[By Ped Velasco]

[Text] Tagum, Davao del Norte—A municipal councilor and 12 CAFGU [Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Units] members were taken hostage while a militiaman and his wife were wounded when some 100 New People's Army (NPA) rebels raided barangay Malatibas, Panabo town, this province at noon Saturday.

Reports reaching Lt. Col. Teodorico Viduya, Davao del Norte Constabulary commander, identified the hostages as Panabo Councilor Flamosino Aguirre and CAFGU members Jose Bacam, Pedro Valerio, Mario Larebo, Wilfredo Pacana, Leo Barbang, and Raul Laguidan. Names of the six other hostages were not immediately available.

Wounded were CAFGU member Noel Laguidan and his wife Soledad. Both were taken to the Davao Medical Center in Davao City.

The reports said that the rebels disarmed the militiamen who were on duty at the detachment camp in the barangay.

The other rebels surrounded the house of Aguirre and ordered the councilor to get down. Another group of rebels fired at the house of Noel Laguidan when he later refused to get down. The firing wounded Laguidan and his wife.

The rebels who were led by "Commanders Benzar" and "Parago" took with them all the hostages, including Aguirre, when they withdrew. The fate of the hostages was unknown as of last night. However, Benzar and his men reportedly showed up at Malatibas yesterday, looking for a negotiator who could work for the release of the hostages.

Bail for Detained Communist Rebels Ruled Out

HK1503110590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Detained leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines will not be granted temporary freedom. This was clarified today by Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna in an interview with PTV [People's Television] 4. Azcuna, citing the case of the couple Satur and Carolina Malay, said that pursuant to Article 48 of the Revised Penal Code, the charge filed against the couple is classified as a nonbailable offense. Azcuna issued the statement in reaction to a human rights group's appeal for bail for the Malay couple, including other political detainees.

Military, Rebels Urged To Respect 'Peace Zones'

HK1403104690 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 11 Mar 90 p 9

[By Beth A. Pango]

[Text] Both military and the communist led National Democratic Front were urged yesterday to respect "peace zones" set up by refugees in wartorn areas.

The appeal was issued by Rep. Gregoirio Andolana (PNB, [People Party], North Cotabato), citing "wanton incursions into peace zones by the parties at war" disregarding the people's desire to "live in peace."

Andolana also sent the same appeal to President Aquino for her to order all military field commanders to respect

peace zones in Kalinga, Naga, Negros, North Cotabato and at Sagada. In these areas, Andolana said, refugees are complaining of continued deployment of troops by the military instead of reducing presence of soldiers to prevent armed encounters in which victims are mostly innocent civilians. "Since the government has failed in its peace agenda, the least it can do now is to respect peace initiatives by the people," Andolana said in his appeal to Ms. Aquino. He also urged the government to create more peace zones to remedy the worsening refugee problem in many insurgent-hit areas in the countryside.

The peace zone was a concept of human rights groups and the Catholic Church and it was first set up in Candoni, Negros Occidental, by Bacolod Bishop Antonio Fortich after thousands of residents were displaced there owing to the insurgency problem.

Zamboanga Leaders Favor Southern Command Split

HK1403115090 Quezon City MALAYA in English 14 Mar 90 p 3

[By Mila Velasquez]

[Text] Zamboanga City—Civic and religious leaders here approve the proposed split-up of the Southern Command [Southcom] into two smaller commands to cover the four Mindanao regions.

Under the plan, one command will cover Western and Central Mindanao while the other command will cover Northern and Southern Mindanao. City leaders said that since the city is the headquarters of the largest military organization in the country, Zamboanga City is not spared from threats coming from New People's Army and Moro National Liberation Front rebels.

Dividing the Southcom into smaller commands would also eliminate the presence of too many soldiers brandishing their guns in public, the city leaders said.

Earlier, Southcom Deputy Commander Brig Gen Braulio Baibas announced the plan of higher headquarters to decongest the command "in order to closely supervise troop movements."

The plan also calls for the creation of the Western Mindanao Command which will be based in Zamboanga City and the Eastern Command to be based in Davao City.

NPA Rebels Step Up Operations in Cagayan

HK1403115290 Quezon City MALAYA in English 14 Mar 90 p 2

[Text] The New People's Army has taken advantage of the crisis in Cagayan and mounted attacks on isolated military detachments, the military reported yesterday.

Reports from the Northern Luzon Command said communist rebels attacked last March 7 a patrol base of the 17th infantry batallion in Barangay Labben, Allacapan. The following day, insurgents harassed troops belonging to the Bravo Company of the battalion in Barangay Bikud, Lallo.

Nolcom said a band of rebels then attacked on March 9 the Alpha Company of the battalion in Sitio Bimmukel, Barangay Union in Claveria. A rebel was killed and two others were seriously injured during a 25-minute gunfight, it said.

Nolcom said the concentration of troops in hunting down suspended Cagayan Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo has emboldened communist rebels to attack poorly guarded detachments.

Labor Leader Condemns Bataan Militarization

HK1503133390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] The chairman of the 1 May Movement, Crispin Beltran, is calling for the withdrawal of the military from Bataan. In his appeal to President Aquino and Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, Beltran said the militarization in the area is affecting the labor unions in Bataan. He condemned the Philippine Constabulary and Army raid on an office of the Bataan Labor Alliance in Balanga, Bataan. He blamed the military for the death of a union member in Bataan.

Military Frees Maimbung From MNLF Control

HK1603120390 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 16 Mar 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] The military had slowly freed Maimbung, Sulu from influence of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]. The Philipppine flag was again raised in Maimbung after almost 16 years. This following Philippine Constabulary [PC] Chief Ramon Montano's order for a maximum PC presence in the area to fight insurgency and crime. Montano delivered the flags to the police headquarters and to schools in Maimbung.

1990 Foreign Debt Estimated at $29 Billion

HK1403114490 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 12 Mar 90 p 17

[By Oscar Quiambao and Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.]

[Text] The Central Bank [CB] has placed the country's foreign debts at $28.983 billion last year, a whopping $1.063 billion increase from the 1988 level of $27.915 billion.

According to the December issue of CB's QUARTERLY ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL REPORT, the total external liabilities will rise by another $762 million this year to amount to $29.745 billion. The report showed that last year's level of indebtedness was on the downtrend starting the first quarter of 1989 until reaching the bottom at $26.875 billion by the end of September.

Meanwhile, the $1.290 trillion debt of developing countries in 1989 will increase by 2 per cent to about $1.319 trillion in 1990 (or about 45 times the current level of Philippine foreign debt), the World Bank [WB] said. The World Bank in its "World Debt Tables 1989-1990" said the total external debt owed by developing countries last year was estimated to have increased by a mere 0.5 percent or $6 billion from $1.284 trillion in 1988. The bank said the increase of the total debt of developing countries last year was substantially less than the 4.3 per cent GNP (gross national product) growth of all developing countries.

The Philippine oustanding foreign exchange obligations, until the end of November, was at $27.016 billion, even lower than the $27.497 billion posted at end-March and the $27.161 billion as of June 30. The sharp rise could be attributed to the $1.98 billion increase in medium and long term debts which were only $23.098 billion in November.

Philippine loans from the International Monetary Fund was at $1.294 billion, a measly rise from the November figure of $1.035 billion while those from other creditors accounted for the biggest chunk of the increase at $1.721 billion, or from $22.063 billion to $23.784 billion.

Medium and long term obligations are projected to level at $25.745 million this year, with the new money package from the commercial banks to account for the bulk of the increase.

By creditors, loans from bilateral sources like Japan showed the biggest increase from $6.395 billion in November to $7.365 billion, or a $970 million rise.

Loans from multilateral lending institutions such as the WB and the Asian Development Bank registered a $545 million hike, or from $5.249 billion to $5.794 billion.

The government is the biggest borrower at $16.664 billion followed by the CB at $6.339 billion. The private corporate sector owes $3.51 billion while commercial banks borrowed $2.47 billion. Local analysts expect the private sector debt to increase this year following the relaxation of rules governing foreign borrowings. The move will provide borrowers, particularly exporters, the needed flexibility in negotiating for a loan to fund their own foreign exchange requirements.

At the same time, the WB reported that net transfer of capital from developing countries to their creditors in 1989 amounted to about $52 billion. This means that developing countries were actually exporting capital to developed countries.

The World Bank claimed, however, that most of developing countries have been able to service their external debt in the 1980s. The bank cited several factors that made these countries less vulnerable to debt crisis. "Countries that have pursued outward-oriented policies and experienced favorable terms of trade, such as many countries in East Asia, have by and large avoided debt problems," said the bank. They were able to raise their paying capacity by rapidly expanding their exports.

The bank also said that those that promptly undertook structural reforms like reducing public spending in the face of external shocks did not have to resort to excessive foreign borrowing.

At the same time, countries that judiciously used external funds to ease infrastructural bottlenecks, to develop human resources or to expand productive bases generally did not suffer debt crisis, the bank said.

The bank said indebted countries fall into four categories namely severely indebted middle-income countries (SIMICS), severely indebted low-income countries (SILICS), moderately indebted middle-income countries (MIMICS) and moderately indebted low-income countries (MILICS).

Strikes Blamed for Low Productivity

HK1403114090 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Mar 90 p 3

[Text] The Philippines is one of the most strike-prone countries in Asia, having lost 1,525 mandays in 1988 in strikes involving 75,848 workers, records of the Department of Labor and Employment [DOLE] showed.

This makes the Philippines the lowest in labor productivity in the region, said UP [University of the Philippines] Dean Jose Gatchalian in a policy seminar on Labor Management Consultative Mecanism [LMCM] sponsored by the employers confederation of the Philippines.

Gatchalian said there is an urgent need to transform the highly adversarial relationship of Filipino workers and employers to a morle cooperative and productive mode.

A recent study showed the mechanism boosts company success. A survey on 19 large-size companies in Metro Manila with some 618 respondents showed LMCM was perceived by successful companies who use it was 82.9

favorable and 69.9

by succesfful companies not using the mechanism.

Less successful companies registered a perception of 31

from companies without LMCMs and 17

from those who utilize LMCMs.

The DOLE's National Conciliation and Mediation Board [NCMB] said promoting and strengthening of labor-management cooperation is of its primary thrusts.

It said: "Considering that the program is relatively new and has not gained much acceptance because of conceptual issues, among others, emphasis shall initially be centered on the promotion and educational aspects of the program. Hence, a core of competent facilitators and

educators shall be developed to effectively promote the acceptability of such joint mechanisms."

As of 1989, NCMB has initiated, facilitated or reactivated some 270 LMCMs covering a total of 125,262 workers.

While the central program of the government on labor-management relations is focused on an industrial peace accord, militant labor centers welcomed the concept of LMCMs as "power-sharing" but expressed doubts on managements' sincerity to share power with labor.

Thailand

Sitthi Back From Europe, Reports on Trip

BK1603075190 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 16 mar 90

[Text] This morning at the Bangkok International Airport, Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila briefed reporters after returning from visits to European countries. He visited West Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia. During the trip, he met with foreign ministers of these countries and was informed of changes in Eastern Europe, unification of West and East Germany, and economic and political changes that will effect Thai trade.

Sitthi said his visits to those countries have positively resulted in strengthening bilateral relations, establishing embassies, and learning of developments and possibilities for joint ventures in trade. However, the Eastern European countries that are opening themselves to others are still in the process of improvement in various aspects, such as adjustment of monetary rules and regulations, contacts with other countries, and changes in national administration. There may be some minor problems in contacts with these Eastern European countries in a one- or two-year period. However, these countries will be important markets for Thailand and ASEAN in the future.

The foreign minister also disclosed that during his European visit he met with Thai ambassadors to these countries and agreed that proposals be submitted to the Thai Government on five points as follows: calling for Thailand to cooperate with ASEAN in making contact with the EC in order to expand their trade with European countries; urging the EC to speed up its expansion of investment in Thailand and ASEAN; asking Western European countries to buy more goods from Thailand for use in developing Eastern European countries; considering new flights or expanding the number of flights to Germany; and more coordination for information between Thai embassies in those countries and the Thai Government, so that the latter will be aware of developments in Europe and will know what to do accordingly in conducting economic relations with those European countries.

Princess Departs on Eight-Day Visit to Laos

BK1503054390 Bangkok TNA in English 0413 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Bangkok, March 15 (OANA-TNA)—HRH [Her Royal Highness] Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon left for Vientiane Thursday to begin her eight-day visit on a historical-site tour in the north and south of Laos.

The princess, who is the first member of the Thai royal family to visit Laos, is scheduled to have a three-day stay in Vientiane, the capital of Laos. During her first day in Vientiane, Princess Sirinthon will lay a wreath at the Unknown Soldiers Monument and then grant an audience to Laotian leader Phoumi Vongvichit who will brief her on developments in Laos. After that the princess would visit Wat Pha That Louang where she would deliver a set of Buddhist scriptures. The princess brings four sets of Buddhist scriptures to be presented to Lao temples in Vientiane, Luang Prabang, Champassak and Savannakhet.

Princess Sirinthon would visit Laotian schools and hospitals, where she would donate educational and medical equipment respectively.

She is scheduled to visit the Nam Ngum Dam to release 99 giant catfish form Thailand.

Then, the princess will travel to the picturesque old capital of Luang Prabang and to the rarely accessible southern areas of Pakse and Savannakhet.

In Luang Prabang, the princess would visit the former royal palace which is now a museum. While in Pakse, the princess would visit Phou Temple, an ancient monument built during the Angkor period.

Chatchai, Officials at Airport

BK1503152890 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1300 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon has begun an eight-day official visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. At 0830 today, the princess arrived at the Royal Thai Air Force airport to prepare for the departure. Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan led a group of political, civilian, and military officials and others to see her off. The princess took the podium to receive the honor guards from the three Thai armed forces.

According to the visit schedule, the princess will be in the LPDR until 22 March. She will visit important religious sites and observe education activities in the LPDR.

At 0935, the princess arrived at Wattai International Airport in Vientiane. She was welcomed by Acting LPDR President Phoumi Vongvichit, Lao cabinet ministers, and many Lao people. The princess inspected the honor guards and greeted the cabinet ministers in the welcoming party.

Accompanied by Acting President Phoumi, the princess then proceeded by a limousine from the airport to the guesthouse where she will stay during the visit. She and the Lao acting president had a conversation at the reception room at the guesthouse. Also present there were Deputy Prime Minister Praphat Limpaphan, Thai ambassador to Laos Nikhom Tantemsap and his wife, and on the Lao side Deputy Foreign Minister Thongloun Sisoulit.

Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon then proceeded to lay a wreath at the unknown soldier's monument on Phon Kheng Road, Vientiane. The monument was built to remember soldiers killed in the war against France and the United States during the war of national liberation.

The princess then proceeded by car to meet with Acting LPDR President Phoumi Vongvichit at his office. His excellency Phoumi briefed her about the living conditions of the Lao people after the war in 1975, noting that various forms of foreign assistance, such as in education and agriculture, are needed. The Lao population is 4 million. Most of the population work in agriculture. His excellency Phoumi said the princess's visit will further strengthen relations between the two countries.

The princess and Acting Lao President His Excellency Phoumi exchanged mementos on the occasion.

Editorial Criticizes Generals' View of Burma

BK1503015590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Mar 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Facts and Propaganda"]

[Text] During his one-day trip to Rangoon on Tuesday [13 March] Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut found the Burmese capital bustling with construction activity and commerce. He was told that slum dwellers had been "relocated" to the outskirts of the city to make way for new buildings. This construction, he was further told, reduces unemployment and increases the "economic optimism" of the Burmese people. The general matter-of-factly repeated to the media what he saw and heard in Rangoon upon his return to Bangkok.

Burmese leader Gen Saw Muang also told his "good friend" General Chawalit that general elections scheduled for May 27 would be "free and fair" as promised, and that the Burmese military regime had nothing to do with the ban on opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi running in the election. General Saw Maung claimed that the Election Commission, which is comprised of respected elder persons, banned the charismatic secretary-general of the National League for Democracy [NLD] on legal grounds, not for political reasons.

U Tin U, the NLD leader, has been sentenced to three years in prison for "subversive" political activity. Many others have been arrested or barred from contesting in the general election. General Chawalit didn't mention these arrests. But he did say that the 93 parties fielding candidates in the general election would each get 10 minutes of air time on TV and 15 minutes of radio time to declare their platforms. This publicity will supposedly overcome the difficulties of martial law restrictions, which include a curfew in most cities and a ban on political gatherings of more than four people.

The relocation of tens of thousands of slum dwellers was officially described as part of a campaign to tidy up the capital city. But Western diplomats and other observers have called it forced eviction, aimed primarily at weakening popular support for Aung San Suu Kyi and other opposition leaders.

Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, one of the top officers accompanying General Chawalit to Rangoon, also came back with the stunning report that hard currency the Rangoon regime has acquired from selling timber concessions to Thai firms would finance "democratization" in Burma. If this is true—and General Sunthon apparently did not doubt it since Gen Saw Muang told him so—those Thai logging firms deserve recognition for providing not only much-needed timber for Thailand but also hard currency to Burma for development of democracy.

At least this last claim of the Rangoon regime is a little difficult to dispute. For it is impossible to distinguish the sources of money that are used in financing bona fide public projects from that used in buying arms to suppress ethnic minority rebellions—apparently what the regime refers to when it talks of "democratization."

The troubling implications of the two Thai generals' statements, of course, is that they not only believe everything Gen Saw Muang tells them about "economic achievements," but that the Thai military establishment supports everything his regime is doing—imprisonment of political opponents, controlling the press, draconian measures to stamp out political dissent, military operations against ethnic minorities, and holding what amounts to a bargain-basement sale of the country's natural resources to Thais and others—to name just the major points.

The Thai generals' rosy statements about the internal situation in Burma contradicts reports of oppression and economic stagnation by almost every other diplomatic and neutral observer in that country.

Given their experience, General Chawalit and General Sunthon ought to be able to separate facts from propaganda. And given their stature, they have a responsibility to present a more objective picture of Burma to the Thai people. Not only is their own reputation and credibility at stake, so is that of Thailand in general and the Thai military in particular.

New Chatchai Cabinet Said To Need 'Respect'

BK1603020590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Mar 90 p 8

[Editorial: "A New Cabinet Lineup"]

[Text] MPs [members of Parliament] from the four major government parties are demanding the replacement of their own Cabinet members, whom they accuse of being either inefficient, controversial, or unhelpful to fellow party members. There was a rash of the demands this week, as if they were planned to surprise the prime minister, who returned from a one-week European trip on Wednesday.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila was certainly caught off guard, as he scrambled to come back home from his own visit to Europe. The Social Action Party [SAP] leader was scheduled to arrive in Bangkok today. Nearly half of the 54 MPs in his party have signed petitions calling for the replacement of four SAP ministers—including Sitthi himself.

In the Democrat Party, old grievances against Agriculture Minister Sanan Khachonprasat reemerged along with demands to replace the party secretary-general with some senior Democrat, particularly deputy leader Banyat Banthatthan. At least three junior Democrat ministers are also being targeted for replacement.

The Ratsadon Party faces a relatively milder movement. Internal consultations are under way to replace Deputy Industry Minister Phaithu Kaeothong with MP Bunthung Phonphanit, reportedly because of a promise made earlier by the party leadership to the Nakhon Ratchasima representatives.

Like the now highly divisive Social Action Party, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's Chat Thai Party faces tough demands for Cabinet posts from those who were left out when the present government was formed 20 months ago. At least three Chat Thai ministers—University Affairs Minister Thawit Klinprathum, Justice Minister Chamrat Mangkhalarat and Finance Minister Pramuan Saphawasu—will be asked to leave. Their critics say replacing these weak or vulnerable ministers is in line with the prime minister's policy of rotating Cabinet posts within the parties in order to give every qualified party executive a chance to serve.

Premier Chatchai reiterated the policy yesterday, and indicated that he would reshuffle the Cabinet soon. But there may be other reasons behind the move.

Army chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut now seems to be leaning toward rejecting the prime minister's offer to take on the defence portfolio after he resigns from the military later this month. He dropped two hints yesterday. First he said he didn't want to see Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Charuai Wongsayan step down from the chairmanship of the Telephone Organization of Thailand's [TOT] board. This post is traditionally held by an active senior army general, and stepping down from it would mean that Gen Charuai would also be leaving the Army, something he has promised to do to follow General Chwalit into national politics. Second, General Chawalit mentioned the corruption problem again. "Corrupt officials should be beheaded," he told a gathering of TOT executives.

Opposition leaders have already announced their intention of holding the prime minister responsible for alleged large-scale corruption in his Cabinet when they seek a censure debate when Parliament reconvenes in May. Opposition leader Narong Wongwan repeated the Solidarity Party's intention of censuring the prime minister yesterday.

Samak Suntharawet, leader of the Prachakon Thai, the second largest opposition party, now seems to realize that it is unlikely his party will be co-opted into a new Chatchai Cabinet, as none of the current coalition partners, including the Democrat Party, show any signs of preparing to pull out.

Without the participation of General Chawalit—whom Prasong Sunsiri likens to a "preservative" that could only slow but not end the decay inside the Chatchai administration—Premier Chatchai will have to work harder to improve his Cabinet. On the one hand, he has to deal with the demands for a Cabinet shake-up from government MPs in each of the four parties. Yet it appears that he would not necessarily have a definite say in many of the personnel changes. Even within his own party, other factions, notably that of Industry Minister Praman Adireksan, are unlikely to give the prime minister a free hand to move Chat Thai ministers around.

On the other hand, even though he has tried his best and managed to placate most, if not all, of the government MPs, he still faces the Opposition's censure campaign. Getting rid of controversial cabinet members will not prevent the censure; it will actually expose the prime minister to much more heat as the other censure targets would no longer be in the government.

If the prime minister hopes to stay on and complete his four-year term—which would make him the first elected civilian to do so—he needs a new Cabinet which can function smoothly, efficiently and most importantly, command respect from the public. Anything less, such as the Cabinet he has now, will not do.

Reportage on Sitthi Visit to Czechoslovakia

WA1403193890

For reportage on the visit to Czechoslovakia by Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, including talks with Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, see the Czechoslovakia section of the 15 March and subsequent issues of the East Europe DAILY REPORT.

Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit to Hungary

WA1503201090

For reportage on Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila's visit to Hungary, including an account of his talks with the Hungarian trade minister, see the Hungary section of the 15 March and subsequent issues of the East Europe DAILY REPORT.

Vietnam

Troops in Cambodia Called 'Sheer Fabrication'

BK1603031990 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Khmer Rouge and some forces in foreign countries have made a hue and cry about the so-called reappearance of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. In this connection, the Voice of Vietnam contributes this comment:

First of all, this is a sheer fabrication, because Vietnamese army volunteers were completely withdrawn from Cambodia last September. At that time, the State of Cambodia and Vietnam had invited all those who wanted to witness this event to come to Cambodia, and in fact, hundreds of foreign observers and newsmen were present in Cambodia to cover the troop pullout. This fact has been acknowledged by public opinion in the United States and Western Europe.

The INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE on 3 March quoted a WASHINGTON POST story as confirming that Vietnam completely withdrew its troops from Cambodia last autumn. For its part, the British Broadcasting Corporation on 16 February said: Britain is fully aware of Vietnam's complete pullout. The BBC also quoted American officials as stressing that there is no evidence to support the charge that Vietnam left behind its operational forces in Cambodia. The American Defense Intelligence Agency also shared this view, and the American Central Intelligence Agency acknowledged that Vietnam's complete pullout from Cambodia is a fact and the allegation that there are still remaing in Cambodia Vietnamese troops is not convincing.

Despite all this, the Khmer Rouge and some other forces deliberately fabricated a story about the reappearance of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia in an attempt to sidetrack the world from the Khmer Rouge's acts of sabotage along the Cambodian-Thai border. And by so doing these forces also attempted to sidetrack the Cambodian opposition groups and concerned countries from the key questions to solve the Cambodia issue. For this reason, at the Informal Meeting on Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge tried its best to draw public attention to the imaginary reappearance of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. With this allegation, these forces also attempted to slow down the process of solving the Cambodian issue. A classified U.S. document elaborated the Khmer Rouge's strategy—that is, to drag on the negotiations on the Cambodian issue for (?years) so that they can prolong its control over some rural areas in the country. What the Khmer Rouge wish is contradictory to the current developments in the country. At present, the Cambodian people are resolutely struggling to foil that dark design.

Three Departure Programs Reported Accelerated

BK1603045390 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 16 Mar 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] Officials in Vietnam say three programs under which people are permitted to leave the country are being accelerated. The officials in Ho Chi Minh City in the south of the country expressed the hope that this would contribute toward a drop in illegal departures. From Ho Chi Minh City, Alexander Thomson reports:

[Begin recording] The three programs under which Vietnamese can legally leave the country to settle abroad are the Orderly Departure Program, which was primarily to allow for family reunification; a program for Amerasians, the children of American servicemen who served in Vietnam, who are allowed to leave with their close relatives; and the newest program for people who were sent to reeducation camps after the end of the Vietnam war, and this mainly applied to former officers and civil servants in the defeated South Vietnamese regime and those who worked for the American allies.

Refugee officials in Ho Chi Minh City, which was once known as Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, say all three programs are being accelerated—partly because the Vietnamese authorities are being more cooperative and partly because Hanoi wants to remove as many points of friction with the United States as possible. Earlier this year, an American-built transit center was opened in Ho Chi Minh City and departures are now up to between 1,000 and 1,500 Amerasians and their relatives a month. The departure of former inmates of reeducation camps began in January, and it is hoped that by next month, departures should be up to 1,000 a month. And whereas just over 45,000 people left last year as part of the Orderly Departure Program, average monthly departures this year are already up and officials of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees say that they should reach the target of at least 60,000 departures by the end of the year. [end recording]

Leaders Greet Gorbachev on Election as President

BK1503160790 Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 15—Vietnamese party and state leaders today sent a joint message of greetings to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, on his election as president of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

In the message, Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council and Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, said:

"Your election to the highest and responsible post of the Soviet state during this extremely important stage of the

restructuring process in the Soviet Union demonstrates the Soviet people's trust in you for the sake of continuing the perestroyka to bring about new strength for socialism in the Soviet Union, thus contributing to peace and revolution in the world.

"The Vietnamese people, now as in the past, always set great store by their solidarity, friendship and multifaceted cooperation with the Soviet Union and are determined to do their best to constantly consolidate and develop the Vietnamese-Soviet relations in order to make more effective contributions to the renovation and perestroyka processes in the two countries, thereby contributing to the consolidation [of] peace, security and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and the world as a whole.

"We firmly believe that the fraternal Soviet people, tempered in their prolonged revolutionary struggle and under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, will staunchly strive to overcome all trials and hardships to carry their perestroyka process forward."

Dang Vu Hiep Attends Seminar on Lao Party

BK1503085590 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 15—A seminar with the theme "The Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Lao Revolutionary Cause" was organized here Wednesday by the Political-Military Institute of the Vietnam People's Army (VPA) on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the Lao party.

It was attended by Sen. Lt. Gen. [Senior Lieutenant General] Dang Vu Hiep, deputy head of the VPA's General Political Department, Major-General Vu Xuan Vinh, head of the External Relations Department of the Ministry of National Defence, Lao Ambassador to Vietnam Bouasi Chaleunsouk and many others.

Speakers at the seminar brought out the leading role of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in the Lao people's revolutionary cause, the development of the strategic and tactic thinking of the Lao Revolution, the issue of seizing and maintaining power, and the militant solidarity and cooperation between the people and armed forces of Vietnam and Laos over the past decades.

The Lao ambassador highly appreciated the close and effective ties between the two parties and peoples in national liberation and defence, and reiterated the Lao Government's desire for consolidating the friendship and cooperation among the Indochinese countries and in Southeast Asia.

Article Views Issues of Peace, War, Revolution

BK1503155990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 11 Mar 90

["Article" by Nguyen Van Duc: "Peace, War, and Revolution"]

[Text] Peace, war, and revolution are current issues affecting the development of the present era's political thinking, forms of struggle, and strategies for the proletarian revolution. We should study these issues by analyzing their root causes, characteristics, and potentials leading to the trends of conciliation or confrontation in the current world situation. We may apply appropriate methods to accelerate or optimally exploit these trends, in accordance with the revolutionary spirit, to correctly strengthen the struggles for peace and revolution and to prepare ourselves to cope with events under all circumstances, including wars. We should also study the nature of each type of war being waged in various regions of the world in order to have an appropriate attitude toward these events.

The present trend toward conciliation and dialogues did not stem from the goodwill of the imperialist and reactionary forces nor did it stem from the subjective aspiration of any one person; it stemmed from an objective cause, especially the strength of the revolutionary and peace-loving forces in the world, mostly from socialist countries. Wars stemmed from aggressive policies of imperialism, while peace is the characteristics of socialism—an all-time proven correct principle. The reason imperialist countries and international reactionary forces currently talk about conciliation and dialogues is because the revolutionary and peace-loving forces have become a vigorous force. Taking into account the balance of power between the revolutionary and counterrevolutionary forces and between war and peace at present, the imperialists cannot do whatever they want as they did in the past. In the final analysis, the people always strive to maintain their aspiration for peace. Counterrevolutionary wars are but the ambition of the oppressing class—the ambition that forced the revolutionary people and nations to carry out revolutionary wars to liberate their countries and protect their independence.

The trend toward conciliation and dialogues also stemmed from the modern scientific-technological revolution which capitalist countries have optimally exploited to strengthen their economy and technology and use them to invade and rule other countries more effectively than using military power. The development of modern science and technology has accelerated the tendency to internationalize the world economy, thereby forcing nations to depend on one another's economy and effecting swift changes in the national economy of each country. A slightly economic setback faced by a country could result in its backwardness for decades, or even longer if that country were in a quagmire of war. As a result, efforts to stop the danger of a nuclear world war and other regional wars as well as efforts to resolve armed conflicts through political solutions are very sensible.

Stemming and developing from an objective cause, the current trend toward conciliation and dialogues has seemed to last longer in a stable manner. Nations should take this opportunity to catch up with the situation and

other countries to move forward. This is the challenge of the era requiring efforts to keep abreast of the times and a wide, far-reaching strategic concept of the leadership of nations. For revolutionists, they must know how to apply forms of struggle to achieve the highest results. They must know how to intensify efforts for peace. Now that it has become the trend of the era, no question should be raised in this regard. Those who know how to exploit this trend to win the people's support are real revolutionists. Revolution does not always rely on military power and wars.

Even the U.S. imperialists, truculent as they are, now have to be flexible in many areas. They now only dare to talk about low-intensity conflicts—LIC's—rather than about two wars, about two and a half wars, or about a war and a half in their global strategy. Detente and dialogue involve a fierce and complex struggle. We can achieve them only with actual strength, intelligence, wisdom, and ingenuity instead of doing nothing or depending on the goodwill of imperialism. It is the imperialists who have always talked about negotiating from a position of strength on the subject of military deterrence as a precondition for achieving peace, but they resort to force when they deem it necessary. For revolutionaries and communists, detente and dialogue should be achieved only in accordance with rules and conditions based on independence and freedom, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The relationship between national duty and international obligation must be correctly resolved. Imperialists and reactionaries will not easily bow to such conditions.

With independence and freedom already achieved, we still have to compete with one another for national construction. This competition seems to be more complex than that of war. Detente and dialogue do not rule out the possibilities of war and limited armed conflict. The peoples of various countries should not belittle the strength of national defense, neglect their national defense duties, or renounce their national liberation mandate. This problem has not been intentionally created by us but by the policy of the imperialists and reactionary forces. Even if they are forced to come to terms with detente and dialogue, they will never give up their policy of confrontation. They always want to achieve detente and dialogue from a position of strength, forcing their rivals to accept their conditions.

It is necessary to expose the U.S. imperialists' policy of making peace with big countries while waging war against small but progressive countries. The so-called LIC doctrine is, in fact, a policy of aggression that uses force at varying degrees. Facts show that gunfire has never been heard to stop in various regions. Nixon openly said that we—meaning the United States—are waging a war in the name of peace. This is a never-ending conflict that will continue for many generations. In Vietnam, the imperialists and reactionaries still continue their all-round sabotage and limited land-grabbing strategy. In Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge—which serves as a strike force for a proxy war using sanctuaries offered by another country—has not yet been eliminated. Examples in Afghanistan, Angola, Nicaragua, Grenada, and most recently, Panama prove that the danger of war remains and that the independence of nations is threatened at varying degrees. Therefore, to think that once the trend toward detente and dialogue exists that one can sleep in peace is to cede one's vigilance and cripple one's fighting will. Marxists-Leninists will never classify all wars as the same or vaguely protest against any war. We should always distinguish between the just and the unjust war. If a war occurs, it can either be a just war that we should resolutely support or an unjust war that we should resolutely oppose.

In the trend toward detente and dialogue, one can use many methods of struggle for national liberation and defense. Despite this, we should not think that war should not be used. The methods of struggle depend on the situation, the enemy's policy, and the balance of forces at certain moments in each given area. It is not certain that any war, wherever it is, can surely develop into a world war and threaten world peace. Our party always has a correct policy on domestic and foreign affairs. The party affirms that the Vietnamese revolution has two strategic tasks, namely national construction and national defense. The party has advocated readjusting its national defense strategy and making a shift in its foreign relations strategy. They have relied on an objective analysis of the current situation in the world and in the region, and have sensitively grasped the opportunity created by the trend toward detente and dialogue as against the policy of confrontation on the basis of our country's actual revolutionary strength, which is now strong enough to defend all achievements already gained.

The party has scientifically calculated the present and long-term capabilities and schemes of the reactionary forces against us and has adopted the appropriate strategy and tactics to create a new situation for our struggle to achieve peaceful coexistence with them. This is to make it possible for us to consolidate peace and concentrate on economic construction while heightening vigilance and maintaining combat readiness. We are determined to preserve peace, and we express goodwill toward the settlement of all disputes with parties concerned on the basis of our fatherland's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We are also determined to correctly tackle the relationship between our national duties and our international obligation, and we will strive to create an environment for stepping up national construction. At the same time, we will not neglect, even for a minute, to consolidate national defense. To readjust the national defense strategy does not mean to weaken it but rather to improve it qualitatively. This is to be done by combining national defense with security maintenance in order to be ready to cope with all contingencies. This includes foiling the enemy's schemes and tricks, their all-round sabotage, limited armed conflict strategy, and their wars of aggression of any scale.

We must always uphold the banner of peace, support the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries of the world, the revolutionary movements in various countries, national liberation, all independent and sovereign countries in their national defense, all just wars, and contribute positively to safeguarding world peace. All our party's advocacies and policies reflect the renovative thinking on issues of peace, war, and revolution in the current international juncture.

Failure of Credit Unions Prompts Demonstrations

BK1503152190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1454 GMT 15 Mar 90

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, March 15 (AFP)—Small savers in this southern Vietnamese city have been holding demonstrations all week to demand reimbursement of deposits lost as a string of private credit unions here collapsed. Each morning since Monday [12 March] growing numbers of peaceful protestors have gathered outside the city hall under the eyes of policemen who have so far kept their distance except to ensure the continued flow of two-wheeled traffic.

The credit unions have sprouted in the city without any legal status in the last year to the detriment of state banks, which have been unable to offer equally attractive terms to savers. But in the last few months, more than 10 percent of the some 170 credit unions have stopped paying returns to savers, according to the head of the Economics Department at Ho Chi Minh City University, Professor Dao Cong Tien. He said the failures were due either to embezzlement, risky investments by inexperienced owners or investments that have yet to pay off. The demonstrators are demanding that their deposits be repaid. Faced with the growing resentment, Vietnamese authorities quickly agreed to partially reimburse investors and granted banks in difficulty a six month tax break.

Mr. Tien said the positive aspect of the problem was that opportunists would disappear leaving the way clear for serious firms to regroup and set up true private banks. "The state supports the setting up of these private banks and laws will be published this year," added Mr. Tien, who is a member of the communist party. He said foreign experts from "non-socialist" countries had been consulted so as to set up a judicial framework to fill the void which had led to the present "anarchy." In Ho Chi Minh City alone in the last year these private credit unions have attracted some 200 billion dong (50 million U.S. dollars) previously kept "under the mattress" by investors who had no confidence in the state banks. The banks proved attractive by offering returns as high as 25 percent per month on investments of one to three months. Mr. Tien added that he did not believe the protests would develop into a political issue "if the authorities take the required measures, which they have already begun to do."

'More Than 10,000' Detained in Crime Crackdown

BK1403054790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on 9 March carries an article on national defense and security, hailing various localities for satisfactorily implementing Council of Ministers Directive No. 135. The article says: After more than five months of implementing Council of Ministers Directive No. 135 on suppressing criminal offenses and maintaining public order and security, all localities throughout the country have detained more than 10,000 convicted criminals or suspects. Society has thus been further purified. Today, every time citizens walk out onto the streets, they feel safer. They do not have to worry about being beaten up by hoodlums if they accidentally bump into a cyclist. Honest people feel less threatened by crooked persons. The elderly have less to fear from youngsters; the grown-ups no longer dread children. In the past, a few quarrelsome, brawling hooligans could scare a whole hamlet and city street, putting residents constantly on the edge, while large public security, self-defense, and civilian guard forces looked on helplessly.

The situation has now begun to reverse. Along with the liberal economic mechanisms, the order restoration campaigns have helped improve the social atmosphere. However, citizens wish that order and discipline in other fields will be restored as well to purify all aspects of economic, political, and social life. This will be the fundamental basis for suppressing all other social evils.

Hanoi To Continue Drive

BK1503103590 Hanoi Domestic Service In Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 MAR 90

[Text] Implementing directive No. 135 of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Hanoi public security service held a news conference this morning to make public the contents of a plan of the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee to continue launching the fourth drive to crack down on crime and restore order in the municipality. At the news conference, Comrade Nguyen Dinh Thanh, director of the municipal security service and deputy head of the municipal committee for implementation of directive No. 135, disclosed that during this drive, from 11 to 30 March, Hanoi would concentrate on suppressing professional criminals whose activities have resulted in many serious crimes, effectively and intensively combating corruption, preventing all criminal activities, and sharply reducing the number of serious crimes and indecent offenses on the streets and in public places.

In this drive, Hanoi will continue to intensify the maintenance of urban order, striving to create new progress in this task and quickly apply regulations on the control of urban order to all daily life activities on the streets. The municipality will also continue to carry out vigorously a movement deeply and broadly among the masses to

encourage them to participate in preventing and combating criminal activities and social vices, ensuring urban order and sanitation, and consolidating and enhancing the operational efficiency of the key forces of the movement at the grass-roots level. This is to increase efficiency of the management machinery.

Court Convicts Newsman of Criminal Offense

BK1503091590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] The high-level Military Appellate Tribunal met in Ho Chi Minh City on the morning of 6 March 1990 to try the case of journalist Nguyen Minh Vien. During last year's crackdown of decadent video cassettes, Nguyen Minh Vien, a correspondent of TIEN PHONG [VANGUARD], wrote a report in issue No. 29 of the TIEN PHONG published on 18 July 1989. The journalist used stories told by a reader as his sources without checking carefully to determine their veracity, and his report contained no real names and addresses.

In its 24 November 1989 session, the Military Tribunal of the 7th Military Region, convicted Nguyen Minh Vien of libel in accordance with Article 117 of the Criminal Code and sentenced him to 12 months of suspended imprisonment and 18 months of probation. The journalist and many press organs appealed the rulings while the Vietnam Journalists Association [VJA] called on the responsible agencies to reconsider the case, all contending that the charges of libel against Nguyen Minh Vien were not accurate.

Speaking on behalf of the VJA at the 6 March court session, Comrade Dinh Phong, a member of the association's Secretariat, clearly pointed out that journalist Nguyen Minh Vien cannot be convicted of criminal offenses as stipulated in Article 117 or Article 221 of the Criminal Code because of insufficient evidence. Both the title of his report, "Consequences of Decadent Video Cassettes: A Painful Case," and its details very clearly showed the journalist's aim of combatting decadent video cassettes. There was nothing to prove that he wrote the report for the purposes of defaming anyone, gaining benefits, or promoting personal interests, or that he had abused his position and privilege. Of course, TIEN PHONG must take severe disciplinary action against the journalist for his inaccurate report which had led to bad consequences.

Comrade Dinh Phong also mentioned Article 220 of the Criminal Code concerning offenses committed through carelessness and pointed out that journalist Nguyen Minh Vien had committed an offense due to neglect and carelessness in using and checking documents, causing adverse consequences. Representatives of the Secretariat of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee and of the TIEN PHONG editorial staff also made statements, proposing that the court reconsider its decision to convict Nguyen Minh Vien of criminal charges in accordance with Article 221 of the Criminal Code. Finally, the tribunal concluded that journalist Nguyen Minh Vien was guilty of a criminal offense as defined by Article 220 of the Criminal Code and declared a penalty of warning against the defendant.

Journalists Association Discusses 1990 Tasks

BK1503062190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] The Fifth Executive Committee of the Vietnam Journalists Association [VJA] held its third plenary session in Hanoi on 8 and 9 March. The plenum debated at length a report presented by the committee's secretariat, assessed the work done since the Fifth VJA Congress, and discussed the association's tasks for 1990. The plenum noted that lately, many organs, papers, and radio stations have made an effort to present more diversified and abundant news reports on domestic events, as well as on international, economic, political, and social events, and to promptly convey numerous ideas contributed by the people to the party's draft program on renovating and strengthening mass mobilization work.

However, aside from this progress, there has also been confusion and hesitation in information work and stalling in the struggle against negativism, especially among a number of local newspapers and radio stations. Acting at odds with the Law on the Press, which has already been adopted and promulgated by the National Assembly, some localities have issued written directives prohibiting state organs from providing journalists with documents and curbing timely reporting of events. Situations still exist in which localities cause difficulties for journalists who are plying their trade strictly in accordance with the law.

The plenum heard a report by the VJA Control Committee on the results of its investigations into some events and on its successful efforts to protect the legitimate rights and interests of association members in their professional activities. Concerning the VJA's tasks for 1990, the plenum focused its discussions on two major issues—namely, contributing to promoting the cause of renovating the press and renovating the VJA's activities. In view of changes in the domestic and international situations, these tasks are important and pressing ones that respond to the renovation policy initiated and guided by the party. The plenum unanimously agreed that the VJA should actively and positively participate in preparations for the promulgation of documents related to the Law on the Press and of other legal documents aimed at promoting implementation of that law. It must take the initiative in proposing to the state the adoption of various procedures, policies, and statutes concerning journalists' work to ensure favorable conditions for the press to perform its functions and for the people to exercise their freedom of speech through the press.

To mark the major anniversaries in 1990 and Vietnam Journalists' Day, 26 June, the VJA will hold seminars on the theme of freedom of the press and the party's leadership and Uncle Ho with the press. The plenum

affirmed that the VJA's right and obligation is to protect the legitimate rights and interests of journalists and to contribute to overcoming all persecution of journalists and all attempts to obstruct their work. To conform to the new situation, the VJA must renovate and strengthen its work, drastically switching its operations to the localities and grass roots to constantly consolidate the VJA's link with its members. The VJA will reexamine its organization through the issuance of membership cards and will make insignia for presentation to veteran journalists. The VJA Executive Committee also adopted a draft plan under which it will propose that the party and state improve methods of training journalists.

Committee Reports Results of Nomad Resettlement

BK1503055590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] To date, more than 1.7 million tribesmen, or about 50 percent of the target, have adopted settled farming and settled life according to a report by the Central Committee for the Settlement of Nomads. The new settlers, with state assistance, have opened more than 128,700 hectares of land for grain crops and thousands of other hectares for industrial crops. They have also built more than 2,450 medium- and small-scale water conservancy projects and 50 hydroelectric power projects with a total output of 680 kilowatts for production and the people's daily lives.

However, the results of the movement for the settlement of nomads in various localities have been uneven. For several years, the number of resettled tribesmen has remained static. In many localities, the new settlers have returned to nomadic practices. A total of 70 percent of the resettlement sites are rated average or unsatisfactory; the standard of living, generally speaking, remains below the poverty line; epidemics continue to increase; and cultural and spiritual life hovers at a low level. Meanwhile, investment, cadre training, and production planning policies have not been changed, and a price-support policy has not been worked out to promote the marketing of goods produced by nomad resettlement sites. If this state of affairs is allowed to continue, the resettlement of nomads will surely continue to face many more difficulties.

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20 March 1990